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WHAT

Northern Men

SAY OF THE SOUTH.

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS THE PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

Convention of Northern Residents of the South,

Held at Charlotte, North Carolina, January 15th, 1879.

nd, also, Letters from persons giving individual expressions and facts relative to Products per acre, Social Life in the South and other Facts Regarding Localities which are Important to those seeking Knowledge of the South and its People. These Letters should be read by all, and are of equal importance with the Proceedings.

EDITED FOR THE CONVENTION BY N. DUMONT, OF CHARLOTTE, N. C.

ublished by order of the Convention of Northern Settlers in the South by Resolution passed in Convention, January 15th, 1879, ordering 1000 copies to be printed and distributed by the President of the Convention, in the Northern and Western States.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.:
BSERVER STEAM JOB PRINT, CORNER TRADE AND COLLEGE STREETS,
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Twenty Thousand copies of this document are ordered by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina.

Any person desiring further information concerning t[h]e State will please address

N. DUMONT,

Charlotte, N. C.

WHAT NORTHERN MEN

SAY OF THE SOUTH.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

If you run a line North and South, through the middle of a map of North Carolina, this city lies a short distance west of that line, and about ten miles north of the southern boundary of the State. It is a remarkably healthful and fertile country; is situated on high lands, between the valleys of the Catawba and the Yadkin rivers; it is a short distance from the foot of the Blue Ridge range of mountains, and there is no disease incident to the climate. It supplies a large territory and has a larger wholesale trade than any other point in the whole State.

Charlotte has 10,000 inhabitants and a debt of $5,000; taxes have been reduced more than fifty per cent. since 1876, and the valuation of property was also reduced, the tax being fifty cents per one hundred dollars on a less than half valuation. The principal streets are McAdamized and paid for. The expenses are light and the management economical. The city is well lighted with gas. The government of the city is run on a cash system and no bonds are issued. None of the bankrupting systems obtaining in other Southern and most Northern cities find any refuge here. The officers are the Mayor, Clerk and Treasurer, Marshal and Tax Collector. The city is divided into four wards, each ward having three aldermen; there is no other board. There are two steam fire engines, one hand engine, three hose carriages, and an improved hook and ladder truck—all well equipped, in fine order and admirably managed.

The advanced schools are the Carolina Military Institute, a most imposing structure, healthfully situated and overlooking the city on the south side; President, Col. J. P. Thomas, over 120 students from all parts of the South. The Female Institute, a fine Brick building, Italian style situated in a perfect grove of rare trees and plants, overlooking the city, on the north side of the city, Rev. W. R. Atkinson principal, over 100 students from all parts of the South. On the westerly side of the city stands Biddle Institute, for the education, under the

auspices of the Presbyterian Church, of colored men for the ministry. This college is under the direction of Rev. S. Mattoon, D. D., for many years missionary to Siam.

Besides these there are several minor schools and academies, and before long a system of graded schools will be established.

The churches are four Presbyterian, four Methodist, three Baptist, one Lutheran, one Episcopalian and one Roman Catholic; the greater portion are fine structures and have large congregations. Also a Young Men's Christian Association, and two Masonic, two Odd Fellows lodges, with Sons of Temperance and other organizations.

The United States Branch Mint, established here in 1835 and continued as mint of coinage until 1861, is a building giving marked features to the city. It is now an assay office at which large amounts of gold and other minerals are assayed, and since its establishment as a Sub-Treasury distributes in its purchases of bullion at assay value from the mines at or near Charlotte, a very considerable amount of money monthly. This Sub-Treasury feature is stimulating gold production in this region, and many of the old mines are being re-opened and worked.

Charlotte has two machine shops and foundries, besides a branch of the Shockoe Iron Works, of Richmond, Va., and also a branch of the Erie City Iron Works, at Erie, Penna. All classes of machinery and mills can be purchased here at low figures.

Charlotte has an annual trade in dry goods of $2,000,000; groceries $2,500,000; boots and shoes $750,000; whiskies and high wines $500,000; hardware $750,000; agricultural implements manufactured and sold here $300,000; in leather, hides and findings, tanned and manufactured here $200,000; drugs $250,000.

The four banks have a capital of near one million of dollars; deposits in addition of over a million.

Charlotte has one daily newspaper, and three weeklies.

Charlotte is the centre of the gold, silver, copper and iron mines and the famous Rudisill Gold Mine, with its large stamp mill, is less than two miles from the court house.

There are, near Charlotte, beds of barytes. A paint mill would pay largely. The people are driving, enterprising, intelligent and refined. Property is cheap and so is the price of living.

COTTON FACTORIES.

Within twelve to thirty miles of Charlotte there are nine cotton factories, viz:

1. The Mountain Island Mills, 12 miles from Charlotte; 5,000 spindles: makes osnaburgs, plaids, sheetings, yarns and warps; lights with gas of its own manufacture; sells its products in Philadelphia, St. Louis and Chicago, and at Charlotte, N. C.

2. The Woodlawn Mills, 16 miles; employs 200 hands, 75 looms and 2,500 spindles; manufactures about 800 bales of sheeting and 240 bales

of yarn, and sells all its productions from this market. One mile from Lowell.

3. The Lawrence Mills, 16 miles; 2,500 spindles, capacity 5,000; makes warps and yarns; ½ mile from Woodlawn Mills. At Lowell, Gaston county, distant one mile, is depot.

4. Mount Holly Mills, 12 miles, 2,000 spindles; makes warps; sells North; is increasing.

5. Gastonia Mills, 17 miles; 3,600 spindles, makes warps and yarns, and sells North.

6. Stowesville Factory, 16 miles; 2,000 spindles, 24 looms; makes yarns and shirtings for home market; is increasing.

7. Odell & Co. Mills, 18 miles: runs 2,000 spindles and 50 looms; makes yarns and sheetings for home market.

8. Phifer & Allison, 35 miles; run 1,500 spindles and 30 looms; makes shirtings and yarns for home market.

9. Rocky River Mills, 20 miles; 1,000 spindles. 15 looms; yarns and sheetings for home market.

The Lawrence Mills, mentioned above, are entirely new, having commenced operations in June 1879.

Charlotte can show better opportunities for various manufacturing enterprises than any other city in the South. It has a start and cannot retrograde.

All in all, persons locating in and about here will find a greater blending of all the requisites which produce business ease and home luxury, at less cost and with lighter effort than can be found elsewhere.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C.

Mecklenburg County has a population of about 30,000. Its gold and other mines now in operation, its mining advantages and water powers, its six railroads centreing at Charlotte, the county seat, its accessibility to market, its own population and the wide territory tributary to it, and for which this city is now the market, gives to the manufacturer and farmer an assurance of a ready market, speedy and direct transit with cheap fares and freights by through lines to any point on the continent.

THE NORTHERN PART

of this county is gently rolling with occasional hills; is well watered by creeks, branches and some very fine springs. Considerable meadow and bottom land on Reedy, Back, McKee and Mallard creeks. The meadow

and bottom lands are easily drained at a trifling cost, and, when drained, produce very fine crops of corn, wheat, oats, clover, etc. Very little land in this part of the county not tillable.

Schools—Davidson College, one of the heaviest endowed and among the first educational institutions of the South, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church; and Academy at Huntersville for boys; a number of private schools; convenient common schools, kept four months in the year, where children between the ages of 6 and 21 years attend free of charge for tuition.

Churches.—Methodist, Presbyterian, Associate Reformed and Baptist.

Timber.—Oak, hickory, dogwood, ash, pine; &c. Near Davidson College much of the timber has been taken off, and it may be said that timber is getting rather scarce; enough however for farm and firewood purposes. It is supposed that not over one fourth of the land is in actual cultivation.

Products—Corn, cotton, wheat, rye, oats, barley, clover; evergreen, orchard and other grasses. Yield very fine under good cultivation.

Stock.—Some fine horses, hogs, cattle and sheep have been raised in this section. Stock raising has been very satisfactory to the few who have been engaged in that business.

This district is very healthful. The people are moral, religious, church-going, kind, hospitable, and will welcome strangers who may wish to settle among them.

THE WESTERN PART

Of this county is well watered by Long, Paw and Davidson creeks, small branches, and many very fine springs.

This section bounded by the Catawba river, has much fine water power, some very fine bottom lands, which produce very fine crops of corn, cotton, wheat, oats, barley and grasses.

Generally gently rolling land, little but what can be brought into cultivation at trifling cost.

Schools.—The educational advantages of this section consist principally of common schools, taught four months in the year.

Churches.—Several Presbyterian and Methodist.

Timber.—This section is very well supplied with oak, hickory, ash, dogwood, pine, &c. Best timbered section in the county. There is less land in cultivation than in northern section.

Products.—Same as in northern section. Yield good, under good cultivation.

Stock.—But little attention paid to improved breeds of stock, which would do well under proper management. Scrub stock thrives well.

This district is more broken and rolling than any other portion of the county, though not hilly nor having ravines. It is traversed at intervals by gold veins, over which lies a gray loam, with clay subsoil, and it is susceptible of high cultivation.

THE SOUTHERN SECTION.

Parts of this section are level, gently rolling, and along the Catawba river hilly. About two thirds of the southern half of the county is nearly level, and is finely watered by the Catawba river, Steel and Sugar creeks, etc. The soil is a deep dark loam, finely adapted to all forms of agriculture. The greater portion of this section has been cultivated. Some lands have been turned out, but could by proper management be brought into cultivation at light cost. Some of the most productive land in the county is in this section, yielding very large crops of cotton, corn, wheat, rye, oats, and many of the cultivated grasses. It is a healthful district.

Stock.—But little attention paid to improved stock. Scrub stock thrives very well.

Schools.—Several academies for boys; also common schools, kept four months each year.

Churches.—Presbyterian, Associate Reformed, Lutheran, Baptist and Methodist.

Timber.—Not so well timbered as the northern or western section, but some very fine timber near Catawba river, oak, hickory, dogwood, pine, &c.

THE EASTERN SECTION

Is rolling, but not hilly; generally somewhat like the northern section. It is a little broken in the exteme eastern corner, but has no ravines or hills. The soil alternates a grayish sandy top with red clay subsoil, admirably adapted to cotton, tobacco, cereals, fruits and stock raising. There is much timber, mainly oak and hickory, interspersed along the creeks—of which there are many—with ash; on the uplands there is some forest pine. This district is thickly settled, although there is much unoccupied land which can be opened to culture at slight cost. Its schools are good, society excellent and church privileges equal to any part of the county.

The above statement of facts is obtained from Messrs Wm. Maxwell, Register of Deeds, J. R. Erwin, Probate Judge, and M. E. Alexander, Sheriff. These gentlemen have spent the greater part of their lives here, belonging to old families, and know the county thoroughly.

T. L. VAIL,
Chairman Board of Co. Com'rs.

State tax, 29 cents; County tax, 29 cents per $100. This tax covers all items save City taxes.

NORTHERN SETTLERS.

A VOICE IN BEHALF OF THE SOUTH.

On the 14th day of December, 1879, Mr. N. Dumont, a northern man who had settled in business in Charlotte, N. C. about two years before, caused to be printed and circulated through the press of the South, and by mail, to such northern residents whose names he could find, this circular letter, viz :

"CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 14, 1878.

"DEAR SIR:—I have consulted with a number of gentlemen who have moved from New York, New Hampshire and other Northern States and settled in this State, South Carolina and Georgia since the war, many of them ex-Union soldiers; I myself am from Springfield, Massachusetts. The conclusion we have arrived at, is that Northern men who have settled in the South, have in their hands the solution of the question, as to whether any considerable number of good Northern men and active Northern capital can be diverted to the South. Many of the Northern papers are giving wrong notions as to how Northern people are received. You know many of our friends will not put much faith in what Southern men or papers say on this head. We who have consulted upon this matter deem it wise to hold a convention of Northern men only, who have settled South since the war—good, fair representative men. Your name has been given as such an one. It is thought wise to hold this convention about January 15th, at Charlotte, N. C., it being more central for all. Arrangements have been made with the railroads for the round trip at one fare. Will you be kind enough to signify if you will come or not, and if you cannot come, please address me a letter stating your views. It is desired in the convention to prepare a statement for publication in Northern papers, setting forth the soil, climate, prices, ease of making a living and social treatment of the individual Northern man. It is not desired to cover any question of politics or extreme views of any kind.

"In your letter, whether of acceptance or declination, please state if you were in the Federal army, company and regiment; where you moved from to your present residence, and how long you have resided at your present whereabouts.

"We shall be glad to hear from you at the earliest day.

"Your obedient servant,

"N. DUMONT,

"Charlotte, N. C."

The sentiments therof but crystalized the thought in the hearts of Northern residents in the South, which only sought some mode of expresion, and in response thereto at noon, on the 15th of January, 1879, 75 to 80 delegates, representing Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, assembled at the Opera House in Charlotte,

N. C., when they were called to order, the call read and in a short speech the causes inspiring the call were stated.

By a unanimous vote, the convention was organized by calling Mr Dumont to the chair, and by voting the following named gentlemen vice-presidents: W. B. Middaugh, of Danville, Va.; A. J. Curtis, San Mateo, Fla.; P. F. Dawshe, Gainesville, Ga.; H. Coykendall, Black Station, S. C.

On motion, the appointment of the secretaries were placed in the hands of the president and Messrs R. E. McDonald, of Charlotte, Thos. J. Conger, of Conger's Station, Iredell county, and Capt. John E. Woodhouse, of Concord were selected.

COURTESIES OF THE CITY.

Shortly after the organization the president was informed that a committee of the citizens of Charlotte were present and had a communication to present to the convention. Upon invitation of the chair Hon. B. R. Smith, Mayor of the city came forward, and after a brief introduction extending to the members of the convention the hospitalities of the city, announced that a meeting of citizens had directed a committee, of which he was chairman, to present a resolution of welcome to the convention, which he herewith presented to the president.

The resolution was read by the secretary, as follows:

WHEREAS, The citizens of Charlotte have been informed that certain citizens from the North, who have become residents of this and other Southern States, contemplate meeting in convention in this city on the 15th inst., for the purpose of giving an expression of opinion as to the material resources, and social and political condition of this section; and

WHEREAS, It is the desire of our people that the facts in this convention shall be fairly and fully stated by men who have come among us, uninfluenced by the prejudices of Southern birth; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the facts will be so stated by this convention, without regard to sectional sympathies,

Now, Therefore, We, the undersigned committee, in behalf of the citizens of Charlotte, tender to the delegates of this convention a cordial welcome and the hospitalities of the city, and request our chairman to present this in person to the convention.

B. R. SMITH, Chm'n.
H. C. JONES.
W. J. YATES.
C. DOWD.
R. M. MILLER.

BUSINESS AND EXPRESSIONS OF MEMBERS.

The communication, as well as the remarks of the mayor, were received and a committee was appointed to prepare an answer to both.

It was suggested that the next thing in order would be the appointment of a committee on resolutions to prepare business for the convention.

The president said before proceeding to this, he would prefer to hear an expression of the sentiments of the delegates on the subject of the call.

In reply to this suggestion Mr. J. C. Bates, of Union county, addressed the convention at some length. He was pleased with the idea of the convention at first, and was satisfied that it could be made the instrument of great good.

He was in favor of taking local rather than general views. It would not be the part of wisdom in the convention to attempt to speak of that whereof it did not know and had not seen, but to confine its assertions to what had come under the observation of the delegates. He also thought all questions of politics should be excluded. He himself was a miner in Union county. He had always received the kindest possible treatment while in Charlotte, and since he and his family had resided in Union county.

He believed that North Carolina possessed special advantages to an agricultural people, and was satisfied that the mines in this section of the State could be worked to great advantage. He said further that as a sheep growing country the Piedmont region of North Carolina could not be surpassed.

Mr. H. H. Bollman, of Polk county, N. C., formerly of Pittsburg, Pa., next spoke. He said that so far as the treatment of Northern settlers by Southern people were concerned, he hardly thought it was necessary to touch upon that question. Since he came here eight years ago, he had experienced one continual expression of kindness. He had 1,100 acres of land in Spartanburg county, S. C., and 600 where he lived—more land than he wanted. One hundred acres of it would support a family the size of his own. He himself felt the need of active, intelligent men to settle on it and cultivate it. The great need of his section was public schools for the dissemination of general information. If the people knew better they would certainly do better.

Mr. Cushing, of Lincoln county, N. C. followed, saying that he had come to North Carolina under the most unfavorable auspices possible—as a yankee soldier, his company having been disbanded in the South. If the people had treated him any better, it would have made a fool of him. They would treat the most galvanized yankee the sameway. Why it was that Northern people kept on talking about this thing, he couldn't for the life of him see. He said we could offer them everything but equal advantages in public schools, and we were improving in this particlar.

Mr. T. A. Hoyt, now of Earlsville, S. C., said he had been engaged in real estate business for some years, and had looked forward to this convention with high hopes. He had found as many well disposed and Christian people at his present home as anywhere he had ever lived. He had received hundreds of letters asking the very questions which it was proposed that this convention should answer. At this point he read a letter from Mr. L. N. Wilcox, late of Pennsylvania, who, in speaking of the advantages which the South offered, said that he would rather embark in business with $5,000 in the South than with $25,000 in the North. He now owned three hundred acres of bottom land in Polk county, which he would not sell for $150 per acre. Mr Hoyt said he was satisfied that the climate, soil and general character of the country in North Carolina afforded as good homes as could be found anywhere. He also believed that any prejudices which Northern men might have would be removed by a residence in the South.

At this point in the proceedings, a motion was made and carried that the chair appoint a committee on resolulutions to draft the views of the convention.

The chair appointed the following:

Rev. Dr. Mattoon, president of Biddle University, Charlotte, N. C., formerly of New York.

A. J. Curtis, of San Mateo, Fla., formerly of New York.

H. Coykendall, of Black's Station, S. C., formerly of Des Moines, Ia.

W. B. Middaugh, of Danville, Va., formerly of Pennsylvania.

H. D. Ingersoll, of Loudsville, Ga., formerly of New York.

The committee then retired to prepare the resolution.

Several other short addresses were made in the same strain as those already reported.

The convention then, on motion, adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock to hear the report of the committee on resolutions.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

When the convention re-assembled in the afternoon, a communication was read from Northern citizens of Newberne, N. C., and subsequently one from those resident in Mooresville, and also from Highlands in Macon county, also from Charlootte, N.C., setting forth the advantages which these localities offered to settlers, and on motion both communications were ordered to be filed with the proceedings of the meeting. These documents will be found in the appendix.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The committee on resolutions through its chairman, Rev. Dr. Mattoon, announced that it was prepared to report, and the convention decided to vote on the resolutions *seriatim*.

The committee offered the following for adoption:

To the People of the Several Commonwealths composing the United States of America:

We, the representatives of Northern settlers in the Southern States, and being ourselves immigrants from localities in the Northern States to the respective States following our individual signatures, in convention assembled, do call your attention to the following, feeling assured that cool judgment upon the facts shown will set in flow the currents of reason, and action will follow reasoning without prejudice. We prefer to make findings specifically and at length, and we find:

1st. That in the States of our former homes there exists an active prejudice against the South, and its people; that this prejudice is mighty in its influence for evil on the nation; that by it and through it the conditions of the country are largely disquieted; that it is fomented and kept alive for ends ulterior to the common weal; that the real interests of the nation are kept out of sight in keeping alive this prejudice. That much of this prejudice, if not all of it, is due mainly to wrong information concerning (and partial and total ignorance of) the facts existing in a large portion of the South.

2d. That in the portions of the South in which we reside, the right of any man, from no matter where, to express publicly as well as privately his opinion upon any subject and of every nature, is nowhere and in no manner restrained. That all laws are well administered and as truly enforced against the wrong-doer as in any part of any State of the Union.

3d. That any man who has so conducted himself at his former home as to win the regard of honest men and decent people, by pursuing the same course of life in the South, does gain and keep the regard and respect of all people, regardless of any question of politics or religious faith; and we further find that being a Northern man is certainly no disadvantage.

4th. That every citizen recognizes that he is amenable to the law, and that local self-government is as much required and encroachments upon these as much deplored as in any State North, East or West.

5th. We find, too, that persons foisted themselves upon the polity of the South, and by their conduct cast discredit upon the Northern name.

6th. Those of us who were in the army of the Union never for a moment pretended to think of denying our uniform or the old cause. The Confederate soldier has always evinced the true soldier instinct in the grasp of those who were his enemies in war.

7th. That considering reputed outrages, if these were carefully sifted it will be found that the complainants for like acts would have suffered at the hands of any people under like provocation.

BUSINESS AND SOCIAL RELATIONS.

8th. We find that in business relations the ex-Confederate is willing to sell his land on time to Northern men, even to people who could not get the same accommodations at the North, East or West. We find, too, that in the ramifications of business they endorse our notes and bank paper, and are not over-anxious or inquisitive on questions of extension, and they frequently say, "It is as much our interest as yours that you should succeed and by your success help fill the country with thrifty people."

9th. That as neighbors they visit our firesides and welcome us to the privileges of public worship, and sympathize in our sorrows and afflictions; that they admire sturdy integrity and real principle; that their definition of what these things are corresponds with the idea of the same our neighbors in the North held in common with us. We find that we are not tabooed nor subjected to any kind of persecution for proper conduct or good Northern ideas or principles, and though differing from many of our Southern neighbors on many essential questions in politics and otherwise, we have lived and prospered here among them, they knowing these differences.

NEEDS OF THE SOUTH.

10th. We find that the South needs more people badly, and that none appreciate it more than the native population, and that they are willing to offer fair inducements to industrious people to come and settle among them. If residence among a people and having daily social and business contact with them means anything, then we ask a fair consideration by all people of the facts we herein find; and that at least the same credit be given to our statements that is given to the unsupported statements so swift in their mission of dissension and misrepresentation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EASTERN OR ATLANTIC SLOPE.

11th. That east of a line drawn from Richmond, Va., to Raleigh, N. C., thence to Columbia, S. C., thence to Tallahassee, in Florida, the country on the eastern side of the South Atlantic States contains a vast extent of rich alluvial lands, fine sandy loams, a considerable extent of swamp and arid sand, heavy forests of pine and cypress, fine fisheries and harbors, important water powers and vast beds of marl and shell; that in this sea-slope belt, from the Potomac to the gulf, is grown all products that are grown in any of the States of the North, and in addition fine qualities of tobacco, cotton and rice, while south of Savannah the bannana and other tropical fruits add their value.

THE FOOT HILLS, OR PIEDMONT BELT.

12th. That abouth 60 miles westward of the line given, the country gradually rises, and at about the line given becomes gently undulating, and assumes its distinctive character as the foot hills of the Blue Ridge range of mountains and becomes the country known as the Piedmont belt, and is comprised in that strip of country lying to the west of the line given for an average distance of about 150 miles, in some parts narrower and in others slightly wider, its eastern limit having an altitude of from 300 to 400 feet, rising by gradations to a height of from 900 to 1,100 feet on its eastern line. Within this Piedmont belt are forests of oak, ash, hickory, walnut, maple, beech, birch, all the hard woods with yellow pine and occasional belts on the higher ridges of white pine. Rivers and creeks afford, with their tributaries, abundant water, and these streams fail not, neither go dry.

WATER POWER AND AGRICULTURE.

Abundant water powers, large numbers of them averaging from 12 to twenty feet, and many from 25 to 50 feet, and others from 60 to 150 feet of natural fall, on streams having a width of from 100 to 700 feet. Some of these water powers have cotton and woolen mills thereon, and any one wishing to be interested, can be shown that these are paying handsomely. The soil is generally a red clay or mulatto or chocolate land, grey loam and black soil. The bottom lands yield largely; those of the uplands moderately. On the kind of culture hitherto followed in the South—which is in no degree up to the Northern standard, yet owing to ease of transportation to market, shortness of lines and the kindness of the climate, the money value of all crops exceeds that of the fields of Kansas or Minnesota.

MINES.

A. We find in this belt, mines of gold, iron, copper, coal, limestone, mica, barytes, mineral paint, corundum, etc., etc., which, if worked with the assiduity and appliances as elsewhere, would furnish labor to a vast population, and equal in yield those of other States more known to popular report.

CLIMATE, INSECTS.

B. We find the climate of this belt salubrious, invigorating and restoring; that its summer temperature is lower and cooler by several degrees than at the North, that gentle breezes keep the summers restful; that drouths or failure of crops are unknown; that insects and pests destructive to crops have no existence; that the winters are moderate and short; that animal life is easily supported without expensive methods of care and constant working to feed the labor of the summer away; that here man works for himself and his, and not for his brutes; that there is no month in the year but that out of door labor on the farm can be done and plowing is not ordinarily interfered with by frost or snow.

HEALTHFULNESS.

C. We find the country healthful, well drained and singularly free from ague, malarious fevers and malignant disease; and, where any such cases have occurred it will be found due to neglected local causes, such as dams in marshy places, obstructed ponds causing back-flows and consequent stagnation.

PRODUCTS.

D. We find that cotton, tobacco, all the cereals, the apple, peach, fig, pomegranate, all varieties of fruit, the grape and various berries thrive and mature finely—the peach bearing in three years from the seed. That the tame grasses are grown with slight effort, and are a profitable crop; that sheep, cattle and swine pay handsomely.

E. We find that all occupations pursued for profit, whether in trade, law, agriculture, mechanics, manufactures, when pursued here with the same persistency and methods as other countries, yield as large returns with less strain.

THE MOUNTAIN COUNTRY AND TABLE LANDS.

13th. We find that to the west of the Piedmont belt is a vast extent of mountain country nearly 200 miles in width. This is composed of high table lands rich in natural grasses of most succulent character; fine mountain slopes not too precipitous, and narrow valleys of the most productive kind. The alti-

tude of the country is from 1,100 to2,300 feet above the sea; its atmosphere is singularly rare and pure. Fine mineral springs abound, and these districts have already attained eminence as health and pleasure resorts. It contains mountains and spurs, cascades and other scenic details which give it note for the grand and picturesque. Its forests comprise all the woods enumerated in the Piedmont range. It is more sparsely settled than the eastern range and much of it is remote from lines of travel. It is rich in all kinds of mineral wealth, and its mines of copper, mica, iron and corundum are yielding hand some profits to their operators Owing to its altitude, its winter climate is more rigorous, though the winters are short. "There are narrow zones along the flanks of various mountain ranges known as frostless belts. They vary from a few rods to several hundred yards in width; these boundaries are very narrowly defined and remain permanent." Within these favored lines fruits, whether of the tree, vine or shrub are never struck by frost. Its capacities and capabilities for stockgrowing, its ample water power, its immense forests and fine lands, its healthful climate and great stretches of unoccupied cheap lands mark it as a stretch of country capable of supporting a vast industrial as well as health seeking people.

PRICES.

14th. We find that through any of these several distinctive belts of country of the whole South, unimproved lands can be had at prices ranging from 75 cents to $10 per acre, dependent on remoteness from town and rail; that improved lands can be had at from $3 to $50 per acre.

RAILWAYS.

15th. That at no distant day the lines of railway now reaching from the South Atlantic seaboard, and only impeded in finding their way through the Blue Ridge mountains, will make the ports of Southern States the shipping points for the surplus grain and meat products of the West rather than follow the lines to the Northern seaboard and lakes so often blockaded by snow in the transit, and arriving late and partly damaged at ice-bound ports.

COTTON MILLS AT WORK.

16th. That manufactures at the South are receiving good attention, and that more than ten extensive cotton factories, numbering more than 200,000 spindles, are in successful operation by a union of native and Northern capital, and that several hundreds of cotton factories, averaging from 1,000 to 10,000 spindles, are in successful and profitable operation along the water courses, with abundant room for other and larger factories; that these factories are mainly owned and managed by Southern people and the operatives come from the native white population. We find these several sources of profit in cotton manufacture which are lost inthe North, viz:

1st. The factories are in the fields ofproduction; the producer and manufacturer are brought together, and the profits of the interchange remain at home.

2nd. Saving of transportation of raw material and return of manufactured fabrics.

3rd. The tolls of cotton ginning enter into manufacture; this is labor and the profit of labor entering into manufacture with the other saving as a source of profit.

4th. The cost of water power is nominal, properly speaking: nothing but the building of a cheap wooden dam and rude canals; the streams never freeze in winter nor go dry in summer; no loss of time.

5th. Exceeding cheapness of building material and common labor.
6th. Cheapness of fuel; wood not over $1.25 a cord.
7th. Factories need not be heated to exceed 40 days per year.

MARKETS.

8th. A good home market in a country where the money crop, being cotton, means cash, and not trade, for that crop, and home product selling side by side with the Northern made article at the same price, throws cost of freight, &c., into the pocket of the Southern manufacturer, so that that which constitutes two items of expense in Northern manufacture becomes two profits to the Southerner.

THRIFTLESSNESS OF THE SOUTHERN FARMER.

17th. We find that the modes of agriculture pursued at the South are strangely thriftless; that the implements in use, the wagons and means of farm transportation and cultivationare most rude; that if the same modes of farming were followed in the North, and the same implements used, bankruptcy, ruin and squalor would follow in every instance; that the Southern farmer prospers by such methods and tools is due to the kindness of Providence in giving a climate and soil which almost provide for man themselves; almost certainly for beast: for but few feed stock at all, the very minimum of exertion produces more than a living. Northern farmers pursuing the courses of farming here that they do at home will amass wealth.

BAD ROADS AND WORN BRIDGES.

18th. We find that no attention whatever has been given to roads or bridges in the South; that passage over many portions of the higher country is most difficult; that gullies and holes exist in them oftentimes, rendering passage highly unsafe and adding terribly to thecost of marketing products; that frequently bridges have dangerous holes in them, and are often made of round poles laid loosely; that the approaches to many of the cities and towns, where the roads run together and travel gathers, are miracles of badness and call for ready attention, in not alone the enforcement of the very wise and full road laws, already existent, but the addition of a road tax giving the citizens, as in other States, the option to pay a road tax either in money or labor.

19th. We find a good code of schoollaws providing for a system of free public schools; the sparseness of the population prevents the full administration of them, and the fund is divided with fairness between both white and black. The people believe and act upon the principle that ignorance is the mother of crime and vice as well as of superstition. The private school system always did have preference at the South, and those who are able prefer to send their children to them, because the school tax—owing to the wide distances between homes—hardly suffices to provide for more than the very rudimentary branches of knowledge; yet this is generously supplemented by private contributions and in many districts public schools of fair character are had, and in some instances good graded schools are maintained. The public school system is growing largely in favor; its revenues are annually increasing, and, but for a fear of extravagance in its use, would be largely increased. The numbers of the population at a fair distance from towns and cities, are not enough to justify many appliances for free schools, and therefore much of education is carried on even now, at home, while frequently, those who pay school tax, do not avail themselves of its use for the reason given. An assurance of economy in public school administration would give it swift impulse. What has jeopardized it, is that in some portions it was made the subject of public plunder a few years since by those having charge of its disbursement.

TAXES.

20th. We find, that taxes since home rule has been given to the South, have very materially lightened. In North Carolina and Georgia they are very low, while in the other States they are high, owing to a system of graceless plunder, unconscionable issues of illegal bonds, and diversion of funds from their proper uses. The details of this question, that is the rate of tax, we prefer to leave to the application of the party wanting knowledge, to the collectors of the several counties, or the auditors of the public moneys of the respective States. It will be found, however, that the rate of tax is based upon a valuation of little over one-third, if any.

FRUIT CULTURE.

21st. That while fruit thrives in the South most luxuriantly, yet little attention whatever is paid to varieties; vines go untrained and trees unpruned; that in a country, where fruit of all kinds thrives without any climatic causes for destruction, yet no varieties are bred. The fruit is largely common in variety, and all ripens at about the same time. No attempt is made to save it and it hangs upon the trees, breaking them down with its burden, the branches not even being propped. But few nurseries exist and cities could be named which have no nursery within 100 miles. The orange districts are cared for as regards the cultivation of that fruit as a crop, but all other fruits have hitherto been neglected. Latterly, attention is being paid to earlier varieties, and also, kinds which ripen at different periods. The sales of fruit trees from Northern nurseries are very large. As a business, canning fruit could be made a profitable industry, especially since peaches bear in three years from the seed.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY, STOCK AND DAIRY FARMING.

22d. We find that no attention is paid to stock growing or sheep husbandry, neither to making of butter and cheese, and, that vast portions of the South are in every element eminently adapted to these industries, any of which would return large profits. In a small way some thrifty persons have turned their attention to some one or other of these things, and their resultant profit from stock and sheep, are exciting attention to this subject. Cattle are generally of inferior kind, and receive little feed in winter; rely on grass in summer and are in but few instances housed. The same remarks apply in a general way to horses and mules, and though more care is exercised with them, yet no particular attempt is made in the country to attain good breeds; as a consequence horses are cheap in a country where fine horses are admired. Good horses sell for good prices in the thickly populated districts, and are brought from other parts of the country. In this as in many other things the South is the market for the North.

CAUSES OF SHORT COMINGS.

23d. We find that much, if not all, of this apparent waste and inattention to vast elements of material profit, the throwing aside of opportunity for wealth, is due to these facts largely. When the war closed, the labor system of the South was destroyed; the white people were penniless and came back to devastated fields with nothing to go upon, their farm tools lost or destroyed. In many, if not most cases, large families were dependent upon the returned soldier who never before had done a day's labor in the field, and had no experience in theory, much less practice, in labor of any kind. They must then not only learn the business of agriculture but make a support. Cotton at that time, ruled high in price, and meant money; so that every energy and every bit of attention was turned to its culture to the neglect of grains, fruit, cattle, &c.; and to raise as large a cotton crop as possible with the least outlay was the

purpose of all. Gradually the experience of years, the falling of the price of cotton, showed the Southern farmer that he must no longer pay money for bread and meat, when it could be more cheaply produced; and in the last few years they have shown attention to agricultural chemistry, the treatment of soils, and a direction toward other important branches of husbandry, stock and fruit growing.

TIME TO PLANT, &c

24th. We find that crops may be grown as follows: Wheat, oats, &c., sown in September or October or as late as December, is harvested in May or June; that on this ground may be planted corn, together with peas, and potatoes may be planted as late as July and harvested in late October, and in some portions turnips may be planted after the late potato crop, thus making two and three crops per year. The farm year begins in September, then fall crops are sown, and rent contracts are made. Seeding of small grains goes on until December; and in February spring work begins upon the farm.

WHY COLONIZE?

25th. We find that it is not necessary to move in colonies or squads, unless it be a matter of choice among friends or neighbors so to do. Socially no advantage arises to the stranger who may group with a number of other strangers, to settle in a body as strangers to each other among strangers. Social consideration and protection is gained quite as quickly by the single settler as it would be if he settled with a colony. It will in all cases be found wise to learn the experiences of the native farmer, get his observations on the soil, and kindred things, and to do just as you would elsewhere. Be neighborly, pay and return visits; we find ourselves always welcome, and discuss party politics also, when in the order of conversation it becomes a topic, quite as freely as we did anywhere.

CHEAP LABOR.

26th. We find that farm and drudge labor here is very cheap, the wages being from $6 to $10 per month, with rations furnished, these consisting of meal, pork and molasses, supplied weekly; that under these conditions no man who expects to make his living as a farm or drudge hand, ought to think of coming to the South. There is also a full supply of clerks and young professional men.

CAN AN AVERAGE MAN PROSPER?

27th. We find that any man who has the energy to go West, with limited means, and trusts to his energy and the smiles of Providence, and who succeeds there, could take the same energy and trust and have greater certainty of success in the South. He has no grasshoppers, nor enduring ice, nor snow, nor blasting drought, nor violent winds. His wants are fewer, his hardships less. A generous soil is his, producing well, and capable of being worked in during any month of the year; fine forests of wood of various kinds, minerals of all kinds, marble, granite, sandstone and all other building and ornamental fabrics in abundance, fine water powers, and a diversified scenery. A climate always moderate, no sultry nights which leave him more exhausted than on his retiring; the noon-day sun of summer so tempered that its heat is not oppressive and rarely rising to a temperature of 98 degrees Fahrenheit; the winds moderate and without sharp contrasts of change. Any man, then, with the pluck to make of himself a Western pioneer, can within less than ten years, in this country, where all things tend to man's good health and prosperity, surround himself with lands and stock, and have a fine income with less privation than in many portions of the Union.

28th. We find that a man with means enough to keep himself on a farm or in a small industry until he matures a crop, can get very liberal terms of time

payment on lands, at low prices from the native population; and, that with a properly directed energy and industrious and sober habits he cannot fail to live very comfortably and accumulate property.

OSTRACISM.

29th. We find that no man is ostracised for his opinions or on acconnt of the land of his birth; but, as elsewhere for his bad acts and dishonest failure to meet his trusts and obligations. We find, too, that it is a mistake to treat suspiciously or to ignore the kindly offices of neighborly friendship in all cases extended to a stranger and that sometimes persons have repelled kindness and then complained of being let alone.

30th. We find that the Southern native expects Northern people to have notions on politics and other topics different from his, and views with as much contempt as is elsewhere done, any man who truckles or toadies for simple gain.

31st. We find, that to the people of the other sections of the United States, the South is an unknown land so far as relates to knowledge of its soil, its climate, its healthfulness and its people. That it is libelled for partisan ends and we present this document in all conscience and honor, to give honest knowledge and correct wrong reports.

In a document of this kind we cannot give detailed figures of products per acre, nor the yield per ton of ores, nor the assay value of minerals, nor the monthly thermal range for each point, nor many other special facts, but we, each of us, invite correspondence and will furnish facts and figures regarding our several localities on application.

To the truth of all this we pledge ourselves and stand upon its truth by our signatures hereto.

(SIGNERS.)

Rev. S. Mattoon, D. D., president of Biddle University at Charlotte, N. C.; formerly of New York.

W. B. Middaugh, Danville, Va., farmer: formerly of Tioga county, Pa.

H. Coykendall, farmer, Black's, S. C.; DesMoines, Iowa.

A. J. Curtis, fruit grower at San Mateo, Florida, and stock farmer at Statesville, N. C.; Saratoga, N. Y.

H. D. Ingersoll, miner, Loudsville, Ga.; Massachusetts, and of Company F, 47th Massachusetts Infantry, and late Company D, 59th Massachusetts Veterans.

N. Dumont, president of convention, Charlotte, N. C.

R. E. McDonald, secretary, Charlotte, N. C.; 27th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

John Woodhouse, editor *Register*, Concord, N. C.; Morris county, N. J.

Thos. J. Conger, farmer, Elmwood, N. C.; Brooklyn, N. Y.

I. F. Smith, farmer, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; Port Jervis, N. Y.

W. H. Miller; Van Buren county, Iowa.

John W. Plummer, merchant, Plummersville, Robeson county, N. C.; Milwaukee, Wis., captain Company G, 24th Wisconsin Infantry.

S. A. Sollenberger; Newville, Pa.

Julius Braun, upholsterer, Charlotte, N. C.; New York, 7th U. S. Cavalry.

S. M. Howell, merchant, Charlotte, N. C.; Newark, N. J.

Chas. Foster, farmer, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; Lebanon, Pa. Company E, 2d New Jersey Cavalry.

W. B. Harker, Shoe Heel, Robeson county, N. C.; Salem county, N. J.

Leverett M. Loomis, land agent, Chester, S. C.; Camden county, N. J.

Wm. Sahms, superintendent cotton factory, Clay Hill, S. C.; Philadelphia, Pa.

Jno. W. Carr, book keeper, Charlotte, N. C.; Norristown, Pa.

Jas. Miller, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; Columbus, Ohio.

A. D. Gage, physician, Statesville, N. C.; Geneva, N. Y.
J. C. Burroughs, merchant, Charlotte, N. C.; New Jersey.
W. J. F. Liddell, iron manufacturer, Charlotte, N. C.; Erie, Pa.
H. G. Whiting, painter, Mooresville, N. C.; Massachusetts, 25th Massachusetts Volunteers and Capt. 2d Ohio H'vy Art'y.
Wm. Sproules, tailor, Charlotte, N. C. ;New York, second lieutenant Company I, 10th New York Infantry.

A. Hagan, farmer, Newton, N. C.; Frederick, Md.
Henry Brown, farmer, Catawba county, N. C.; New York.
Geo. A. Page, carriage maker, Mooresville, N. C.; New York City.
S. J. Warren, gold miner, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; Cold Spring, Putnam county, N. Y.
Fred. H. Cushing, iron moulder, Lincolnton, N. C.; Hartland, Vt., sergeant Company C, 58th Massachushetts Volunteers.

A. R. Simonton, Statesville, N. C.; Staten Island, N. Y.
E. R. Bardeen, planter, Aiken, S. C.; New York.
Wm. Lewis, gold miner, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; Askam, Luzerne county, Pa.
Jas. Ludlum, dairy farmer, Charlotte, N. C.; Deckertown, N. J.
G. W. Carr, dairy farmer, Charlotte, N. C.; Norristown, Pa., Company M, 2d Pennsylvania Cavalry.

Delbert L. Barker, planter, Morganton, N. C.; Springfield, Mass.
N. E. Johnson, farmer, Little River, N. C.; Lockhaven, Pa.
T. Hoyt, real estate agent, Earlsville, S. C.; New York City.
Jno. Glover, engineer, Hickory, N. C.; Washington county, N. Y., sergeant Company D, 65th Ohio Infantry.
J. H. Best, farmer, Statesville, N. C.; Rensallaer county, N. J.
W. L. Gilbert, farmer, Elmwood, N.C.; Brooklyn, N. Y.
Jno. J. Gilbert, farmer, Elmwood, N. C.; Brooklyn, N. Y.
H. C. Hunt, merchant, Asheville, N. C.; Cincinnati, Ohio.
H. I. Woodhouse, printer, Concord, N. C.; Morris county, N. J.
Fred. Page, carriage maker, Mooresville, N. C.; New York City.
H. L. Bollman, farmer, Polk county, N. C.; Pittsburg, Pa.
T. A. Davis, superintendent cotton mill, Gaston county, N. C.; Pennsylvania.

H. McNamara, miller and farmer, Mt. Pleasant, N. C.; Lima Ohio.
Isaac Slayton, merchant, Burke county, N. C.; Worcester, Mass.
Jno. T. Clark, miner, Mecklenburg county, N. C.; New Haven, Conn.
S. P. Parker, carriage maker, Statesville, N. C.; Newark, N. J.
S. Radcliffe, saw and plane mill, Newbern, N. C.; New York City.
M. O. Beatty, farmer, Concord, N. C.; Pittsburg, Pa.
S. J. Beatty, Charlotte, N. C.
Chas. B. Allen, Clerk, Charlotte, N. C., from Philadelphia, Pa.
S. E. Linton, Supt. Charlotte Gas Light Co., from Philadelphia, Pa.
W. A. Jaquins, Plasterer, Charlotte, N. C., formerly Q. M. Sergt., 159th N. Y. State Vols., from Hudson, N. Y.

W. Kaufman, Merchant, Charlotte, N. C., Baltimore.
H. Baumgarten, Photographer, Charlotte, N. C., formerly of 6th Michigan Infantry at New Orleans under Gen. B. F. Butler.
A. Baumgarten, Tobacconist, Raleigh, N. C., Baltimore.
J. M. Mendel, Tobacconist, Charlotte, N. C., New York.
H. Berwanger, Merchant, Charlotte, N. C., Washington, D. C.
L. Berwanger, Merchant, Charlotte, N. C., Georgetown, D. C.
S. Landecker, Merchant, Charlotte, N. C., New York.
Otis F. Goodwin, Farmer and Miller, Rock Hill, S. C., from Gorham, New Hampshire.

By a resolution offered by Mr. A. J. Curtis, of Florida, the President of the Convention was directed to call County Conventions of Northern settlers to be held in each county in the South, on February 15th, each county to appoint delegates to a State Convention to be held at the Capital of the State, March 1st, 1879; the State Convention to appoint ten delegates to a general convention to be held in Charlotte, N. C., July 4th, 1879.

At the evening session speeches were made by members of the convention and distinguished citizens of the State and city, and at 10:15 P. M., the convention adjourned until July 4th, 1879, at noon.

NORTH CAROLINA LETTERS.

A. J Curtis, Esq., formerly of N. Y., engaged in Orange culture at San Mateo, Florida; and Stock growing, &c., at Statesville, Iredell county, N. C., gives the following:

Statesville, N. C., Dec. 20th, 1879.

Major N. Dumont,
Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your esteemed letter of the 15th inst., enclosing circular calling a convention of Northern men, who have settled in the south, to prepare a statement for publication in the Northern papers as to soil, climate, etc, and social treatment, is at hand. For reply I have to say that I am heartily in sympathy with the movement, which is in the right direction. It is for us who have settled here, from the North, to disabuse the Northern mind of erroneous impressions as to our social status in the South. If they will not believe *us*, they will "not believe though One rose from the dead."

The writer has lived in the South for nearly fifteen years and I have the honor to say that I never was better treated or received, either by business men or in the social circle; and especially would I make honorable mention of the kind and sympathetic attentions of the Southern people in time of sickness and affliction. The writer has visited every Southern state but Kentucky, has travelled in the North and West from Maine to Mexico; and gives, as his opinion that, all things considered, viz: climate, soil, accessibility to the great markets of the Atlantic cities, and wide range of production that this is the best country I have yet seen. The climate is as near perfect as one could expect to find, a medium between two extremes, New York and Florida, except that being near the highest mountain range east of the Mississippi, it is cooler in summer than either—nights always cool and refreshing. The

winters are mild, with light falls of snow, which last only for a few days, and this for a very brief period. Stock can live out all winter, still it is best to feed them more or less for a couple of months. For sheep husbandry I consider it unsurpassed. If in Vermont it pays to keep sheep and feed them nearly six months in the year, what will it not pay here, where it is only necessary to feed them from thirty to forty days. The same is true also of the dairy business. In the products of this Piedmont region we find a blending of the two extremes of our country, all the Northern products and some of the more hardy of the semi-tropics.

Very respectfully yours,

A. J. CURTIS.

From Geo. B. Hanna, Assayer of U. S. Branch Mint at Charlotte, N. C.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 15, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.

MY DEAR SIR:—My stay here has been prolonged beyond the time I had thought, and I shall not be able to return to my residence. at Charlotte, for some two or three days, and hence shall miss the Convention of Northern Settlers called for to-day. Were I in Charlotte I shoud participate in its proceedings; I beg leave, therefore, to assure you by letter of my best wishes for your success in removing misconceptions of ill-treatment It is only common justice for me to say that in nine years residence in North Carolina I have received kindness on every hand, and have made as many and as cordial friends as in any place, except among my immediate relations.

Trusting that your efforts may succeed in sending abroad that information, which shall lead to juster views, I am

Very truly yours,

GEORGE B. HANNA.

Hon. Clinton A. Cilley, formerly of Mass., and one of the State judges in 1868, now an Attorney at Law at Lenoir, Caldwell county, N. C., writes:

LENOIR, N. C., Dec. 21, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq.

DEAR SIR:—Serious illness in my family has hindered my acknowledging your circular heretofore. I now write to say that I cordially approve of your suggestions and to answer the question proposed.

I am from New Market, New Hampshire, whence I went to Boston, Mass., and after graduation at Harvard College, went to Minnesota. I enlisted in Co. C, 2d Minnesota Vol. as a soldier, was 2d Lieut., 1st Lieut. and Captain of that company, and commissioned Major of the Regiment, which last I declined to accept. Commissioned as Captain and A. A. G., was afterwards Major and A. A. G. and Lieut. Col. and Col. by brevet. From April, 1865 to Sept., 1866, I was on duty in North Carolina, and during the last part of my service here was brought into familiar contact with the people of Western North Carolina. I liked them and the

climate so much that on being mustered out I settled in this place, obtained my law license, and with the exception of a brief term of service as Judge in 1878; have ever since practiced my profession in this and the adjoining counties. I have crossed the Blue Ridge night and day scores of times, have attended courts in the wildest mountain counties, and am well acquainted with the manners and morals of our people in this section. I was well known to have been an ex-yankee officer, and have never pretended to be ashamed of my old uniform.

Under these circumstances I can gladly say that I have been constantly, and I believe, sincerely treated with the utmost courtesy and regard. I have never had an uncivil word or blow, have been freely admitted to the best society, have never been questioned as to politics or the war, save when I showed that such conversation would be agreeable to me, and have been welcomed by all I met, on the ground that I had thrown in my lot among the citizens of the State and was working to build up the community.

I know of no state or town where capital would be safer or more gladly welcomed and protected, or where a stranger, from the North, of any political opinion, who comes intending to live and work here, as the rest of us live and work, would be in better odor; yet I heartily appreciate, also, the contempt with which a few bad men from our army have inspired the good people of the State by their reckless self-seeking and attempts to revive and rekindle the dying embers of the late war, by pandering to the credulity and passion of the suddenly freed negroes.

If I can, I will be at the proposed convention.

Truly, C. A. CILLEY.

From L. N. Wilcox, formerly a Pennsylvania soldier, now and for eight years a merchant at Lynn, Polk county, N. C.:

LYNN, N. C., Dec. 17th, 1878.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of Dec. 14th to hand. I cannot at present see my way clear to be in Charlotte on Jan. 15th, but will put myself on record as you desire.

I am a native of Pittsburgh, Penn., was a member of R. B. Hampton's Independent Battery Pennsylvania Volunteers. Have resided in my present location about eight years. Politics on national questions Republican, but on State affairs Conservative, as *white home rule* is the only hope of the south.

I can cheerfully testify to the uniform kindness of all parties with whom I have had business or social relations, and do not think my being a native of a Northern state has been any disadvantage to me.

As to climate and soil, speaking of the Piedmont region I think the climate unsurpassed and the soil on bottom lands very rich, uplands moderate, but owing to climate, the value of products per acre, exceed in money value, those of the rich fields of Kansas and Minnesota.

I annex the names of Northern settlers who can be referred to by

letter or otherwise all within five miles of my location, and we want more, manufacturers especially, who can obtain water power *free of cost* and of unlimited amounts. Names of settlers:

Dr. Wm. Stimson, New York, Landrums, S. C.; A. Chrisman, Pennsylvania, Columbus, N. C.; A. Haman, Michigan, Lynn, N. C.; T. Hoyt, New York, Earlesville, S. C.; S. J. Wood, Pennsylvania, Lynn, N. C.; Rev. A. N. Keigwin, Iowa, Wilmington, Del.

The latter has purchased a location on the Thermal Belt and will make it a summer residence, while residing permanently at Wilmington, Del.

Yours respt,

L. N. WILCOX.

Gilbert Bros, merchants and farmers in Iredell county, N. C., formerly of Brooklyn, N. Y., writes from

CONGERS, IREDELL CO., N. C., Dec. 20th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your circular of the 14th inst., my brother and I will come to the Convention. We take very much interest in anything that will be of benefit to the country, and will do all in our power to aid and forward the movement.

We both came here from Brooklyn, New York State. I, over four and my brother over three years ago, and can both say heartily that we could not have been better treated had we been among our friends in place of strangers.

So far as it being a detriment to a man, his coming from the North is, in our estimation, rather a benefit than otherwise, provided he comes for legitimate business, whether agricultural or otherwise, and not as (I am sorry to say) many of our Northern brethren have, to make all they can out of a downtrodden people in a political way.

I think energetic measures should be taken to counteract the libels put upon these people.

You can count on us for all the influence we can bring to bear upon the questions at issue and believe us ever heartily yours in this cause.

J. J. & W. L. GILBERT.

H. S. Lucas, capitalist, formerly of Brooklyn, N. Y., now of Franklin, Macon county, N. C., writes:

FRANKLIN, N. C., Jan. 1st, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your circular bearing date Dec. 25th, is before me. I first visited North Carolina April, 1875, coming directly into the Mountains, having no friend or acquaintances in the State, searching for Corundum, a mineral used in the place of Emery. I was received in the kindest manner and had every assistance desired. In April, 1877, I again visited the same locality with my wife and lady companion, an Artist. The grandeur and magnificence of the Mountain scenery no word can delineate. The scenes (to my mind) were perfect in setting

and detail, and I determined to place them on canvas. Two large and beautiful paintings are now in Brooklyn, as the result of this Artist's work. During the summer and autumn of 1877 I journeyed over a large portion of Western North Carolina on horseback, and most of the time entirely alone. Also Middle Alabama; passing through and spending sometime in Georgia. March 8th, 1878 I went, with my wife and lady companion to Tallapoosa county, Alabama, spending five months, living with the planters and riding over the country searching for mineral. June 20th, 1878, I returned to North Carolina. Traveling all the summer and autumn in North and South Carolina, staying and sleeping with the farmers. I have invested five thousand dollars in a Corundum Mine including six hundredacres of land. During all this time we have met with nothing but respect and kindness, and if one does not secure friends in the South, it will be because he does not deserve them. Any person minding their own business is as safe from insult or harm as in city of Springfield, or any part of Massachusetts. The South is limitless in its amount of mineral wealth, its rich lands and healthful climates. The land is cheap; some of the finest I ever saw can be had for ten dollars an acre. As a winter residence Middle Alabama surpasses anything I have ever seen. I was not in the army but have talked freely with hundreds on the war, of its causes and effects, have heard no complaints, defiance or threats against the North. Politically I have expressed my opinions freely as in Massachusetts. I was an abolition-e ist before the war, a republican since. The whole difficulty is with ths politicians and political papers, and with such the Southern farmers ha-no more sympathy than the Northern man. It offers the finest oper tunities for the investment of Northern capital, intelligence and industry ever opened in the history of the country.

If possible I shall be in Charlotte. Fearing that I may not as I expect to go North on business soon, I send this.

Yours very truly,

H. S. LUCAS.

John F. Engle lived South before the war, went home to fight in the Federal army and after the war came South, read his testimony:

ENFIELD, N. C. Dec. 28th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your circular received. Can't be present at your Convention. Will comply with your request. I came from New Jersey in 1857, (am from Quaker stock) to North Carolina. Staid until the war commenced, was so bitterly opposed to secession that in 1861 I went home where I could find kindred spirits. Was with the Army of the Potomac until the surrender at Appomattox, employed as Photographer. Came immediately back to this State and stopped in Greensboro until fall; moved my family then to Florida, then to Georgia, then to Ohio; and last October twelve months ago moved to Raleigh which is now my home. Have traveled and worked in twenty-nine counties in the

State, from the east to the extreme west, and have an extensive acquaintance. All have treated me cordially and shown me every attention. Have never voted but once in my life, then for Fremont and Dayton. I find a sober honest man is as much thought of in this State, (if he was an honest Union soldier) as at home. No better prospects for the farmer, mechanic, or the man of money to invest, than North Carolina. Soil of any kind. Climate all that one could wish. Have been through the West and find the South and its people more congenial to me than any other section I ever lived in. Respectfully,

JOHN F. ENGLE.

From Mr. John Woodhouse, formerly of New Jersey, now Editor of the Register at Concord, N. C.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your circular on hand. The movement meets with my hearty approval. I will attend the Convention on the 15th inst. I have been a resident of the South 12 years, and (except for 8 months in Alabama) all of the time in the three counties of Mecklenburg, Lincoln and Cabarrus in North Carolina. My experience with the Southern people has been the happiest part of my life. My son and several others from Concord will attend. We feel that it is the happiest thought suggested since reconstruction, and must result in great good, not only to the South but to the whole nation in correcting false impressions.

Yours, JNO. WOODHOUSE.

R. Y. Russell, formerly of Lynn, Mass., writes:

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 30th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your circular in reference to the holding of the "Convention of Northern men," came duly to hand.

I came here from Lynn, Mass., last May, and am extremely well pleased with the climate, the soil and the people of Western North Carolina. The people are hospitable and social, and harbor no bitterness of feeling for northerners. The climate, is from every evidence yet shown, superior to any other section of country of its size on this continent, and the soil is capable of almost any result in good skillful hands—furnishing now to its occupants (what is tilled) a good return with scarcely any labor and less brain work.

The diversified interests to which this region is adapted, and its nearness to markets, renders it a superior State for immigrants, and must eventually become a coveted spot for capitalists and people seeking rural homes. At present so far as I can learn, there is no place North, East or West where people can obtain a living more easily, cheaper or better than here. Men competent in almost any mechanical pursuit, and farmers with very little capital, can secure a home and good living. Capitalists, in our opinion, could not find a safer place for in-

vestment. Both labor and capital are only needed to metamorphose this region to almost a paradise on earth.

Quite a number of Northern immigrants have arrived in this section in the last few months. Each one that has come has sent back encouraging words to their friends in the North, and we anticipate seeing many more this coming Spring.

I like your idea of the Convention, and regret that my business is such that it will be impossible for me to be there. It will inaugurate a new era in the South, and we certainly hope all will be realized from it that is desired, so that in the future a check may be put to the many slanderous newspaper squibs which infest the Northern press.

I had no personal participation in the late war.

Much more might be said of the many advantages of the South for Northern immigrants. I hope a hearty response will be made to this movement by all Northern men now in the south, if it is only a word: and think that such response will have its reward.

If this is of any value, make what use of it you wish; and I bid you Godspeed. Yours truly,

R. Y. RUSSELL.

T. A. Davis, formerly of Chester, Penn., now Supt. of Mt. Holly Cotton Mills, at Woodlawn, Gaston county, N. C., writes:

WOODLAWN, N. C., Dec. 24th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Yours of Dec. 18th received and contents noted, I think the step you have taken in this matter is one in the right direction. I have long thought that something of this kind should be done, and Sir. what assistance I can render in a matter of so much importance is freely offered. I will attend at the appointed time if sickness don't prevent.

I have been in this State three years. My former residence was at Chester, Penn. I did not serve in either army.

Very respectfully,

T. A. DAVIS.

A. R. Bradeen, formerly 9th Maine Infantry, now a miner, resident at Monroe, Union county, N. C., writes:

MONROE, N. C., Dec. 23rd, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N, C.,

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 14th inst. to hand. I have been from home for the past two weeks, hence the delay in answering your letter. Nothing would give me more pleasure than meeting you and other Northern men in Charlotte on Jan.' 15th, but it will be impossible for me to meet you, as my business will not permit me to leave, but I will say to all of our Northern brethren to come to North Carolina; you will receive a hearty welcome. I have lived in North Carolina since the war, and I would not give its climate and soil for any other State in the Union. The newspapers may bladge and blow about the people, but I

ask no better treatment from any people than I have received at the hands of North Carolinians. I was a Union soldier, served four years and three months in Co. E, 9th Maine Vols, and some of my most intimate friends are men who I have faced in battle, now they stick as close as a brother. Who could not live among such people. I do hope that the day is not far distant when all strife between the two sections will be no more, and when they know each other there will be the end.

Yours truly,

A. R. BRADEEN.

S. T. Kelsey, an immigrant from Kansas, and settled in Macon county, N. C., writes thus:

HIGHLANDS, MACON CO., N. C., Dec. 18, 1878.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte. N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 11th and 16th received. Am very glad to hear from you and fully appreciate the objects of the proposed convention; but will not be able to attend. We will get up a statement setting forth our treatment in this country and get a goodly number of Northern people, located here since the war to sign it. We may be able to get some of our folks to go to the meeting.

I was brought up in New York State; lived 10 years in Kansas, and came here from Kansas; was not in the Union army, but a Union man and a Republican. Have always been well treated here and free to talk and vote as I pleased, as I believe all other Northern people have in this part of the country,

But for the fear of not being well treated, I believe there would be an immense immigration to the South. And the feeling will be very hard to overcome. The Republican papers North and the Democratic papers South will try to keep up the strife for political purposes—as I fear—'till after the next presidential election. We may do something to counteract these adverse influences, and I am ready to aid so for as I am able. Truly yours,

S. T. KELSEY.

[A statement from this colony will be found in Appendix.]

J. H. Marsh, Postmaster at Lincolnton, a Union man through the war, writes:

LINCOLNTON, LINCOLN CO., N. C. Dec. 24th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your circular of the 14th came to hand. I was born in England, emigrated to Berkshire County, Mass. in 1849—married there. That event only makes me half a yankee. Moved to North Carolina in 1855. I pass with most of our people here for a yankee, however. I am very much interested in your object and meeting. As my business causes me to travel over a great part of Western North Carolina, I have become well acquainted with a great many of her people, and have always been treated with kindness, notwithstanding I

have always differed with them in politics, and have always taken Republican papers before the war and since. My candid opinion is that any Northern man can make more by farming and stock raising, and make it easier, in Western North Carolinia, than he can in any other part of our country. Climate is such that he can work out of doors most all winter. The water is just as good as can be found in New England. Improved farms can be obtained very cheap; as to soil he can find most all kinds, and well timbered: he can find plenty of farms for sale in most of the Western counties.

As to social treatment, I have always been treated well with the mass of the people. He must not expect to find the mass of the people as well educated as the New Englander. If he "will act well his part, there all the honor lies." Will be glad to answer any question you or others would wish to ask. Yours truly,

J. H. MARSH, P. M.

Thos. J. Conger, farmer and capitalist in Iredell county, N. C., and until four years ago connected with the American Bible Society, writes from his home at Conger's, N. C.:

CONGER'S N. C., Dec. 21st, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 18th came to hand. I came down here by the advice of my physician, four years ago last spring. I had for fifteen years previous been connected with the American Bible Society Bible House, New York City. My health became improved after I was here one year. I liked the place and people, and was so well pleased I sold some of my valuable property I had in Brookly, N. Y., and on the Hudson, and invested it in real estate and mortgages in this and Rowan county. I can say I have received the greatest kindness from the people, and can say that the opinion I had before I came, and that the most of the Northern people believe, that because a man came from the North he would not be respectfully received by the people of the South, is *a great mistake*. I was not in the Federal Army, for the reason that my health was so poor. I approve of the Convention because it is to spread the truth. Very truly yours,

THOS. J. CONGER.

From V. K. Spear, a Kansas and Massachusetts soldier and republican, now in Asheville, N. C., merchant.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Dec 30th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR:—Your circular letter of 18th instant came duly to hand. I regret exceedingly my inability to meet you on that occasion; because I will be in New York on that day on important business. I am convinced the meeting will be of great benefit to all who will be present, and also to the South, and the country at large. I gladly write of my

experience here, since I came South, and give you my views of matters suggested by you.

I am a native of the State of Maine; served in the 2nd Kansas and 38th Mass. Infantry, also in Veteran Reserve Corps during the Rebellion.

Since the close of the war I have resided in Massachusetts until October, 1874, when on account of ill health, I removed to this place with my family.

As to social treatment of Northern people here, I know of no notable difference between this and a Northern community; as for myself and family, we can testify to a cordial welcome on our arrival, have seen no indications of social ostracism on account of nativity, politics or religion, and we regard many of our acquantances here as among the most agreeable we have met in any community.

I am a Republican in politics, but take no active part at any time—feeling that under the present management of parties it is a dirty business at best—but vote, because it is a duty I owe as an American citizen, and exercise my judgment as to which is the least of evils to be endured.

The climate of Western North Carolina is in my judgment, the best on this continent.

Asheville is situated on a plateau between the Blue and Smoky ranges of the Alleghany, and is 2,250 feet above the level of the sea. All this immediate region is mountainous, and well watered by the French Broad river, and its tributaries. The temperature rearly exceeds 85° in the summer, and does not often fall to zero in the winter. The atmosphere is dry and invigorating.

Permit me right here to tell the story of our fruit attainment and let the same tell of possibilities, by inserting here a letter of Mr. Natt Atkinson, (who resides here and whose fruit has a national reputation,) written to Mr. P. Barry, chairman of the general fruit committee of the American pomological society—it tells the facts so much better than I can and so much briefer that I think it best just to give the whole letter:

"Our elevation above the tide-water, from 2,000 feet in our valleys, to 6,700 feet, our highest point (Mount Mitchell,) together with our southern latitude, makes this, in my opinion, the finest fruit climate under the sun. We are free from the extremes of heat and cold, with a most delightful climate, noted for its evenness and temperature, and this, together with our long seasons for growing, brings fruits to great perfection, not only as to size but in quality as well.

"Notwithstanding this great bounty bestowed upon us by nature for fruit growing, that business from any intelligent stand point can hardly be said to be in its infancy yet. After a manner, however, we have raised fruit, and for the last fifty years you could hardly go to a farm house where you did not find one or two, and sometimes more, varieties of fine apples. Every one who saw them (strangers) was astonished at their great size and fine flavor, but in consequence of our remoteness from market, no one cared to raise more than was necessary for home consumption. Our surplus was disposed of by being hauled

in wagons to Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, and the eastern portion of this State—often a distance of a hundred miles or more over rough roads—where their superiority always commanded the highest price; sometimes as much as *five dollars per bushel.* But within the last ten years railroads have been gradually approaching us, until now we are about to witness the completion of two fine railroad lines, crossing each other at this place, which will be completed in about twelve months.

"Since this better state of things has been nearing us, we have been buying and planting more extensive orchards of different kinds of fruits, of the finer and more improved varieties. A few of these here and there have come into bearing, and it has thus been demonstrated that the same varieties grown here are larger and of finer quality than they are on any other portion of the globe. To illustrate this fact, I will mention that I have seen specimens of the *Fall Pippin* that weighed twenty-six and a half ounces; *Buckingham* or *Equinetely* twenty-two ounces; *Buff* twenty-four ounces; *Twenty Ounce Pippin* twenty-four ounces, and other varieties in proportion, and this too on standard trees, and without any special care or attention."

Not only are our apples of superior size and quality, but the same may be said of peaches, pears, plums, cherries and the small fruits. Grapes rarely rot in any portion of this high elevation. Here we never have a failure of apples, and on our thermal belts (about three hundred feet above the valleys on the mountain sides,) the peach seldom fails, as it is free from frost, except in mid-winter. On no portion of the globe is there presented to fruit growers and pomologists such a field for their enterprise and operations. We are in the midst of the south with a market for our fine fruit in every direction, east, west, north and south. We want men experienced in the business, and with capital sufficient to go forward at once, and a few years will demonstrate what I have asserted as our merit in this respect. Our lands are cheap (from $1 to $10 per acre,) and we have the finest climate and purest water that providence has given to any portion of the American Continent. Our inhabitants are unusually peaceable and law-abiding, and will welcome good citizens from any portion of the globe. It will afford me pleasure to give in detail any information that I may be able to import, relative to the country, to those who may address me at this place."

We have no fever and ague here, and a mosquito is a curiosity in Asheville. Our winters are short, and are variable as to time, and amount of snow, and rainfall, as is common in all mountainous regions. The nights here are always cool, in summer and winter. Springs of fine water are abundant

The scenery is grand, and rugged, and of great variety—and this feature is one of the reasons for the large number of visitors who come here for health and plersure.

The soil is generally good and productive, and much of it is very rich; but it is generally badly cultivated, when judged from northern

modes of farming. Lands can be bought in Western North Carolina at 50c to 40.00 per acre.

All kinds of grains, grasses and roots are raised here—and its tobacco crop is second to none in quality; while the apples have a national reputation. All fruits (except tropical,) are raised here in abundance. The mountains are covered with timber, consisting of many kinds of oak, hickory, pine, locust, cherry, chestnut, black and white walnut, ash, Birch, beach, &c., &c.

I am firmly of the opinion that the average native does not work *more* than six months in the year. I believe in colonies because I am convinced by personal observation that the *individual* soon drifts into the "slip-shod" ways and habits of the native.

This section is peculiarly adapted to stock raising, and in a colony. *Dogs, the great nuisance of North Carolina*, could be abated and sheep raising would become a great industry here.

We need a Bank in Asheville, more than any other appliance to business interests. We need a *good* hotel kept in the best manner; but to do it right, the proprietor, manager and servants must be imported.

With all our natural resources, good climate, kindly feeling of the people toward those who come here with the purpose of becoming permanent citizens. The great abundance of water-power, minerals, profusion of timber, productive lands, &c., &c. I cannot but think that northern capital and labor will be productive of good results, and make happy homes for thousands who are seeking homes in the South.

I have given you some of the most important ideas which have occurred to me. I wish I could have the pleasure of meeting you in the Convention to express myself more fully.

I am yours very truly,

V. K. SPEAR.

Facts as to products per acre near Goldsboro, N. C., by Capt. Geo. S. Campbell, of the old 25th Massachusetts Vols., and for some time a Revenue Officer in North Carolina, now at Goldsboro, N. C.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 30th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—The circular, with your signature, received. I was born and raised in Worcester county, Mass., lived the most of my life in Worcester. Served in 3d Batt'n. Rifles as private under under Chas. Devens, Jr., 3 months troops, commissioned as 1st Lieut. Co. D, 25th Massachusetts Vol. Inft'y. Had command of said Company from Feb. 8th, 1862, until Feb. or March, 1863. Since have resided in New Berne, N. C., most of the time, until 1870, when I came to this place as Asst. Assessor U. S. Internal Revenue, then as Deputy Collector, and lastly as U. S. Gauger, and now in Mercantile business.

Capital in the South can be used to as much advantage as in the North. I would advise those having small capital, to buy what land they can pay for, and make truck farms, but do not attempt it if you

have to run in debt. Peas, Beans and Cucumbers pay a profit (in good seasons) from $25 to $100 per acre. I cleared on one acre of Cucumbers last year over $100, on two acres of Snap Beans and four acres of Early Garden Peas, not over $25. Strawberries after the 1st year pay from $50 to $300 per acre, cost of setting out about $50 per acre. Land in this vicinity is worth from $10 to $50 per acre, according to quality and nearness to Railroads. Plenty of it for sale, as raising cotton at present prices, cannot be done with profit. The greatest drawback in this part of the State is giving mortgages for supplies.

When I first came to this place, holding an office, and not known, I was, with a few exceptions, let alone, but since I have identified myself with the place I have no cause to complain. Myself and family have been well received and well treated. I was also elected to the Captaincy of the "Goldsboro Rifles," also re-elected, which I consider as a mark of respect, more especially as I am a Republican. You now have my case before you. I am, very repectfully yours,

GEO. S. CAMPBELL.

M. B. Prince, formerly of Schuyler county, N. Y., now a farmer in Forsythe county, N. C., shows what can be done on 50 acres.

BROOKSTON, N. C., Dec. 31st. 1878.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR:—Your circular received and read. I would be most happy to visit Charlotte at the time mentioned, but will be unable to do so. As to the objects of the proposed Convention. I can say for myself that the natives have treated myself and family with as much kindness and respect as strangers could expect to receive. There seems to be no ill feeling towards yankees, and all with whom I have talked are as free to condemn the wrongs committed by the Confederacy as those perpetrated by the forces of the Government. The main purpose for which I came South, was the improvement of the health of a consumptive member of my family. That object has been obtained, even more than we hoped, in fact almost a perfect recovery. In this part of the State we do not find the soil as strong as that of our native place in Western New York, yet after a trial of three years we are learning now better to manage it, so that when it has been much impoverished by careless cultivation and constant cropping; we can produce paying crops. The practice of keeping little or no stock, by letting the manure be wasted in the woods and old fields, where the cattle, hogs, &c., pick up a precarious livelihood the whole year round, is all wrong, and of necessity brings the small farmer to the poor house. I practice soiling in a small way, and by that means am enabled to make considerable manure. I apply to my little farm of 50 improved acres more home-made manure than some of my neighbors on ten times that number of acres. In this vicinity we are considerably engaged in fruit growing; more peaches and grapes than any other, though some are cultivatiing strawberries and other fruits. Though fruit does not pay the big profits of

war times it is fairly remunerative, so much so as any thing in these hard times.

I have been here three years, came from Schuyler county, N. Y. Was never in the army. Please send me report of Convention, and should you decide to publish in circular form would be glad to assist in the distribution.

Yours Truly,

M. B. PRINCE.

From John Hinman, formerly of New York, who fought under Reynolds and Meade, now a farmer in North Carolina.

RIDGEWAY, N. C., Dec. 28th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I have to-day received your circular. I believe you are taking a step in the right direction. If Northern people come South, it must be chiefly through the efforts of Northern people already having homes in the South. The persistent efforts of some politicians and papers to keep the "bloody shirt" constantly before the Northern people, not only does the South a great wrong, but injures, in more ways than one, those of us who have made our homes among the Southern people.

It would afford me great pleasure to attend your Convention, but I cannot be from home at that time. I am a native of New York State, have lived a number of years in Pennsylvania, and moved to this State from Pennsylvania four years ago, lived one year in Raleigh and three years at this place. I was a Lieut. in Co. H, 6th Regt. Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, and served under both Reynolds and Meade.

I have done something in Real Estate here, and have induced several families to come out, but owing to the extreme "hard times," and also the great amount of prejudice existing towards the South, I have tried but little during the year. But for two years I wrote regularly to several papers in New York, and I had a very extensive correspondence.

We have a splendid climate in this State; good water; a soil easily brought up; abundance of timber, water power and minerals, and produce a variety of crops of fruits second to no other State, and are at the very doors of the best markets in the World, and all we lack is working men and capital to develope these natural resources. If your Convention can devise ways and means to bring people South, you will accomplish a great and good work. I shall be glad to hear from you at any time, and especially after your meeting in January, and I will be glad to cooperate with you in any way in my power to bring about the object sought.

Very truly yours,

JOHN HINMAN.

Geo. F. Scott, formerly of the old 1st Massachusetts Cavalry, wants his friends to come to North Carolina.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Jan. 2nd, 1878.

N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

MY DEAR SIR:—Your kind favor of the 18th has been received. I am sorry to inform you that I shall be unable to meet with you at the

Convention. I believe it will prove a success. and may God speed the work. You and I know that the South possesses advantages which will some day, and that not far distant, place her in advance of the rest of the country. I came from Newton, Massachusetts, was in the Federal Army during the war, in the 1st Massachussetts Cavalry, Co. C. I find that my Southern brethren have accepted the results of the war, and are now trying to improve and build up their country. They welcome, with open hands, all who come to help them—never asking your politics —only if you are an honest and worthy man. I number among my best friends some who have served in the Southern Army. When I think of the thousands in my old State who are struggling to keep above want, if they only knew the advantages which this country has for them to get comfortable homes, and a fair compensation for their labor, they would not hesitate long in coming here. I came here last March and was successful in finding business as soon as I arrived. The climate here is the best that I have ever seen. That, combined with the cheapness of living, and a growing place, makes it a desirable place to immigrate to. Wishing you great success in your glorious undertaking,

I remain, yours truly,

GEO. F. SCOTT.

From H. G. Whiting, a former Capt. of the 2nd Ohio Heavy Artillery, a Massachusetts man, who has travelled through the South, now in business at Mooresville, in Iredell county, N. C.

MOORESVILLE, N. C., Jan. 6th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I have your circular, calling a Convention of Northern men about the 15th inst. I will attend it. I had intended to write before this, but have been prevented by business and the holidays. Like yourself, I am a native of the old Bay State, born in Milford, Mass., went out with the 25th Massachusetts Vols. (Co. "B,") remained with the Regiment until after the battle of Newberne, and then was detailed as clerk in Gen. Burnsides' A. A. G. Office, where I remained until 1863, when I was commissioned Captain in the 2nd Ohio Heavy Artillery by Gov. Tod. After the war I travelled throughout the United States three times, and finally, in 1873, I went to Georgia—Bainbridge and Savannah—where I remained until a year ago. Last winter I travelled for pleasure, and in June came to this place and permanently located myself in the carriage and painting business. I have found the people, everywhere, well disposed towards Northern men, that desire to see their adopted home thrive; in this place particularly, the citizens wish Northern families with brains, money and muscle.

I am a true son of the North, but I have decided that this section of the country is the best for me to gain an independence. and I have taken an active interest in the local affairs of this, my future home, and have been met open handed, and substantially encouraged. I am most heartily in sympathy with your undertaking, and believe that the

action of the Convention will be a long stride in the right direction, and accomplish the end designed. I will collect such information, as I am not in possession of, that several of the old citizens can furnish, and place it in your hands. One or two more Northern men will accompany me from here. Please inform me of the date you wish us to arrive in Charlotte, in order that we can arrange our business, &c.

I have the honor to be, your ob't servt.

H. G. WHITING.

Mr. S. J. Warren, a miner from Putnam County, N. Y., now resident in Mecklenburg county, N. C., writes:

MINT HILL, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C., Jan. 7th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your call of Northern men, to convene in Charlotte on the 15th inst., meets with my most hearty approval. Fifteen months ago I left Putnam county, N. Y., for this State, to engage in prospecting and opening up some of the old abandoned mines of which this State abounds. My occupation has brought me contact with all classes and conditions of its people, and I find them every where, open hearted, kind and generous, and freely welcome me as a friend among them. It did not fall to my lot to be in the army during our family quarrel. Hoping, if all is well, I shall be able to meet you on the 15th, and exchange friendly greetings, I am, Yours respectfully,

SAMUEL J. WARREN.

Robert Siddons, formerly of Buffalo, N. Y., now a farmer in Guilford county, N. C., says:

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 7th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I received your circular a few days ago. I am sorry I cannot attend your Convention, but I endorse your move for a Convention of Northern men, only because it will stir up Southern men also. I moved from Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., about eight years ago, and settled here. I am farming at present. My neighbors, for miles around, are social and kind. Never lived in a better neighborhood. I moved here to find a mild climate. The soil is rather poor, but can, I think, be brought up as easy as some of the Northern States. I think a farmer can make a living here about as easy as he can in some parts of New York State. I was not in the army. I was running on a Railroad out of Buffalo before I came here. Myself and family never was in better health than since we have lived here. The country around here is very healthy, the water good and soft. Yours respectfully,

ROBERT SIDDONS.

Mr. N. Plumadore, formerly of Canada and the Western States, now a Real Estate Agent in Raleigh, writes:

RALEIGH, N. C., January, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—It is impossible for me to be present at your Convention of Northern men, much as I want to be there, business prevents, so must content myself by writing a letter and wishing the Convention suc-

cess. I was born in Canada, but lived several years in the Western States, and came to Eastern North Carolina in 1870. There I had chills and fever, so moved to Raleigh in 1873. Being a wagon maker I carried on that business until I sold out. North Carolina has many advantages over her sisters; she lies mid-way between the North and South; free from the extremes of heat and cold. Leaving out the low lands, and along the rivers, it is very healthy. Our mountains are perfect sanitariums for people suffering from all kinds of pulmonary affections, Consumption, &c. The scenery is beautiful beyond discription. The State is full of valuable minerals, such as gold, copper, mica, corundum, iron, asbestos, soapstone, chromic iron, graphite, galena, lime, barytes, coal, marl, alum, copperas, manganese, nickel, marble, granite, whetstone, building stones, limestones, &c. We have also all the clays that are used in the arts; we have any variety of timber, of soil and climate, and numerous mineral springs, and can cultivate, with profit, all kinds of grass, clover, millet, all the small grains, tobacco, cotton, vegetables, rice, sugar cane, hops, flax, jute, &c. In fruit, we beat the world. Our sounds and rivers are full of Oyster, Lobsters, and fish of all kinds. You can build a wall, so high that no living thing can go in or out of our State, and we are independent of the world; we have everything within our borders necessary for man's use.

We are central. Take Raleigh as a centre of a line 700 miles long, and go round in a circle, it will pass over Florida and Alabama, and touch Georgia, over Jackson, Miss., Jacksonport, Ark., beyond St Louis, Mo., Quincy, Mendota and Chicago, Ill., Milwaukie, Wis., most of Michigan, Georgiana Bay, Ottowa, and near Montreal, Can., Montpelier, Vt., White Mt., N. H., and Portland, Me. This takes in all the heavy population east of the Mississippi, and some west of that river. With our Railroad system in a fair way to be completed in the near future. Soon we will have the connections from Beaufort Harbor and Morristown, Tenn., and from Charleston to Chicago, completed; again, strike a line due south of Detroit, Michigan, and it will pass over Franklin, Macon county, N. C., through Robury Gap, Milledgeville, Ga., and strike near Columbus, Fla. Few people are aware that North Carolina reaches so far west and the important position she occupies for future development. All the low lands from Norfolk, Va., south to Florida, and around and up the Mississippi as far a Memphis, is well adapted for the culture of cotton, rice, corn, and the early vegetables. In Florida they have the oranges, &c. This low country will raise Irish potatoes, apples, &c., but they will not keep. It is not good for grapes, although they will do well in places. Therefore Western North Carolina, North Western South Carolina, North Georgia and East Tennessee, must, in the future when they are developed and peopled by an industrious and enterprising population, feed and suply the low lands, two thirds of the year, with bread, fruits, vegetables, beef, pork, mutton, butter, cheese, honey, &c., &c., as well as feed their own manufacturing interprises, that are sure to spring up when there is so much raw material in mineral and timber at their own doors,

and where there is water power plenty to move all the machinery in the United States. To induce good citizens to come here, we must sell them good land at as low prices as possible, protect them in their interest, and not let them purchase too much land because it is cheap. It is unfortunate that Railroads running South and in the South, do not carry passengers and immigrants as cheap as they do West, were they to give us the same rates as they do to the West, I believe thousands would come here, where ten do now. As to the people I have no fault to find. If men coming here are gentlemen, they are treated as such, at the same time do not trust everybody, for we have some that would cheat you if they got the chance. Your politics makes no difference. Protestant denominations have churches everywhere, Catholic churches are few, but her clergy will visit families at stated times. Altogether, I consider the highland part of this State the best place for the new settler and the capitalist to come to in the United States.

Yours very respectfully,

N. PLUMADORE.

A. H. Slocomb, formerly of Sutton, Mass., and for 12 years resident near Fayetteville, N. C., writes many very valuable facts regarding products, soils, &c.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., January 13, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR:—Your Circular inviting me to take part in a conference of "Northern men who have settled in the South since the war," to be held in your city on the 15th inst, only reached me to-day.

I regret that the shortness of the notice will prevent my attendance, for I have long recognized the necessity for such a movement as you contemplate, and most heartily sympathize with the objects you have in view.

What we need for the development of our splendid natural resources is the infusion of a new element into our population, bringing capital, intelligence and energy to utilize the cheap and abundant labor we have. Immigration of the right kind has, in a great measure been kept away from us, as you suggest, by a misapprehension of our social condition and the treatment likely to be extended to settlers from the North Whatever prejudice existed shortly after the war has since died away, and now, after a twelve years residence in this state, I bear cheerful testimony to the kindness and hospitality of its people.

Your Circular seems to call for information as to soil, climate, &c. I can only speak for this immediate section, embracing the counties of Cumberland, Sampson, Moore, Harnett, Bladen, Robeson and Chatham, what is generally spoken of as the upper Cape Fear region.

Our climate, for healthfulness, cannot be surpassed on the habitable globe. Malarial diseases are rare; consumption and malignat typhoid and typhus fevers are almost unknown. Our lands vary in price and productions, ranging from $15 to $20 per acre, and producing from 100

lbs to 500 pounds of lint cotton per acre, and from 5 to 75 bushels of corn. The soil is quick, easily cultivated and responds readily to the application of fertilizers. Swamp lands can be bought for a mere song, and can, with a moderate outlay for clearing and drainage, be made immensely productive. Our manufacturing interest is still in its infancy, but our water power supplied by a large number of swiftly running streams and easily available, is simply unlimited. The four cotton factories in the vicinity of Fayetteville, one of which is run by Northern capitalists, have been and are still doing a large and prosperous business. The railroad now being pushed forward to Greensboro, and already completed to the Gulf, opens up in Chatham county, mines of iron, coal and copper of inexhaustible richness, and forests of valuable timber. Two competing transportation lines to the Northern cities from Fayetteville have reduced freights to a figure absudly low. Hitherto our educational interests have been somewhat neglected, but now, in this city, a free graded school, well organized and efficiently managed, gives instruction to 450 pupils for ten months in the year. A refined and cultivated society, free from prejudice against him, extends to the Northern settler a generous and hearty welcome. The bitterness and hatred engendered by the war have passed away. It is wrong that is people should be longer misunderstood. Northern capital can find here a safe and profitable investment, and Northern immigrants can build for themselves happy homes and surround themselves with a pleasant social circle. If, what I have written can, in your opinion, be used to promote the object for which you are striving, make such use of it as you think best. Again expressing regret that I cannot attend your Convention, and trusting that its deliberations will result in much good, I remain,

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't, A. H. SLOCOMB.

A. S. Ballard, formerly of Massachusetts, now of Asheville, N. C., gives in his testimony:

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Jan 12th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 14th ult., inviting me to be present at a meeting of northern men at Charlotte, was duly received. Business will call me in another direction at that time which will prevent me from being present. I however think it is a step in the right direction and has my approval and sympathy. We have a very large territory stretching along the Blue Ridge on both sides, which has wealth in minerals, water-power and agricultural resources which few dream of. One object of the meeting, I take it to be, is to remove the prejudice existing in the North and the fear of ill treatment, which many entertain, that in settling here they will not find a welcome. I have had no opportunities for personal observation in the Southern States excepting Florida and North Carolina. In Florida I resided nine years and always found respectable northern people well received and well treated. I have not been so long in North Carolina, but I do not hesitate to say that I have never been in any place, North or South, where I have been treated with more kindness

than I have experienced since I have been here. The Railroads which are now under process of construction will make every town and city on the seaboard from Savannah to New York, easily accessible and it will not cost two bushels of wheat to get *one* to market as it does at the West. Not the least important to the settler in selecting a location is the climate. I do not think there is a more healthy climate to be found in the United States than in Western North & South Carolina and Georgia. I trust that the result of this meeting will be a better understanding and appreciation of the advantages to the settler of a location in some of the Southern States. Yours respectfully,

A. S. BALLARD,

Mr. H. C. Hunt, formerly of Cincinnati, Ohio, now of Asheville, N. C., and a Republican gives valuable facts.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 22d, 1878.

N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR :—Yours of the 14th inst. has been received, and contents carefully noted. I would say in reply, that I have resided in Asheville since 1870. I moved from the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, and socially we could not have been treated better, had we moved from any one of the Southern States. I am a well known Republican, at the sametime, I have been better treated by the other, or Democratic party, in fact my best friends are Democrats, and if I wanted a favor, I should go there for it. As for climate I think we have the best, the year round. Our soil is remarkably good for the chance it has had. We can raise all of the grain west of the Blue Ridge that can be raised in the Northern States and also grapes. There is not a better fruit country in the United States for both large and small. Tobacco is one of our best paying crops in some sections of the country. I can see no reason why cattle and sheep raising might not be made a profitable business. We have as fine water power as can be found in this or any country. The French Broad that passes by our city of Asheville could alone furnish water power for the United States, and will when the Railroads are finished have 50 or 60 miles of continuous water power along the banks of this beautiful river. We have scarcely any but freestone water. Asheville has now about 8,000 inhabitants and is growing rapidly for a mountain town, we have every thing to make it a desirable country for the Northern Man; climate, soil and social treatment. Yours very truly,

H. C. HUNT.

Mr. Gleason, formerly of New York, now of North Carolina, gives his testimony.

WAYNESVILLE, HAYWOOD CO., N. C., Jan. 14th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR :—Your esteemed favor, inviting me to meet other Northern gentlemen in Convention, at Charlotte, on the 15th of this month was not received until this date, rendering it impossible for me to attend. I cordially approve of the step you contemplate, of placing a true state-

ment of the estimation in which Northern men are held here, before the people of the North, fully believing such a statement will have a tendency to bring into the South Northern men and capital, thus rendering it the wealthiest as it is now the lovliest, part of our common country. During a residence here and in East Tennessee of about ten years, I have found as firm friends, and as willing hands to assist me, as in the city of New York, where I was in business for twenty years. Let such facts be known and the term "Solid South" will soon be "the baseless fabric of a vision," and all over the land prosperity will once more reign. Regreting I cannot be with you, I am truly yours,

M. F. GLEASON.

Mr. S. D. Wait, a disabled soldier of the old 22d Illinois Regiment, for 12 years a resident at Raleigh, gives his views :

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 14th, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

MY DEAR SIR :—Your circular letter received in due time, and I hoped to answer in person on the 15th, hence delay, but on account of sickness in my family, regret to write that I cannot be with you. Yes ! I was in the Federal Army, a member of the 22nd Illinois regiment, and was shot down at the battle of Belmont, Mo., Nov. 7th, 1861, and have been disabled ever since. I came to this State in January, 1867, and have gained many warm friends here. In regard to a Northern man living South, if he will mind his own business and act the gentleman, he can get along as well, and make as many friends, in the South as any where else. Regreting, again, that I cannot be with you, as I have many friends in Charlotte, I remain,

Yours very truly, S. D. WAIT.

Mr. W. F. Cornell, formerly of Guernsey county, Ohio, now and for six years past a farmer, who came to North Carolina in 1865 with Sherman's Army.

CONCORD, N. C., Dec. 26, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR :—Your circular received, I am from Guernsey County O. I came here in July 1865, came here with Sherman's army, settled in number 9 township. I have always been treated with kindness and courtesy by the citizens of this county. I have worked for W. H. Orehard and Wm. Richards in the gold mines in this and the adjoining counties of Mecklenburg etc. I am a married man, my age is fifty two. My experience with the Southern people has been marked with uniform kindness. I entered the United States army in 1861, remained with it until after the surrender. For the past six years I have been engaged in farming.

W. F. CORNELL.

Lieut. S. G. Blood, formerly of the gallant old 6th. Mass., who went through Baltimore with it, now a resident of Burke county, N. C., speaks:

PARK HILL, BURKE CO., N. C., Jan., 12th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—yours containing an invitation to attend a Convention of Northern Settlers to be held at Charlotte, Jan. 15th, is at hand, for which please accept thanks, but it will be impossible for me to attend, notwithstanding I should like very much to be present and do all I could to refute the erroneous opinions, which at the present time exist at the North in regard to the South, as a place to settle in. I came out here a year ago last May, and began to build up a home here for myself and family, and so far have not been in any possible way hindered or discouraged, but on the contrary, every one I meet treats me as well as I was ever treated in any part of the world, and, I have been almost all over it, and all are anxious to have more come and settle here, and help to develope the resources of this section of country, and they are great, the land is of fair quality, plenty of water, timber and stone, also brick clay, thus you see there is everything here that is necessary for a home for any man that has the ability to hew from the rough *Ashler* to a finished building. I believe the healthfulness of the climate cannot be surpassed in any part of the world, land is cheap and for a man with small means, I know of no better country to settle in, and so far as safety is concerned, I can truly say that if any one coming into this part of the country has trouble he has in almost every case got to be the aggressor, and as regards my family I consider them safer when left without protection than they would be in any part of New England night or day. So far as politics is concerned I find no trouble. Elections in this section are so quiet and of so little interest that many did not know when they occured, not from bulldozing or fear in any way, but from actual lack of interest. I have written more than I expected to when I began; you have perfect liberty to use this letter or any portion of it in furthering the work in which you are engaged, and I hope the coming Convention will do much to refute the erroneous opinions, which have gained credit at the North. I served three months at the commencement of the war, in the 6th. Mass. Regiment from April to August, subsequently nine months, as 1st. Lieut., and the remainder of the time until the close of the war, as an Ensign in the Navy, and was honorably discharged every time. Wishing you every success,

I am respectfully yours, S. G. BLOOD.

Dr. E. H. Green, who moved from Iowa to Charlotte, writes:

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 14th, 1878.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

MY DEAR SIR:—I had intended to write so that you might receive it previous to the meeting of Northern settlers in the South, held in Charlotte Jan. 15th, but failed to get it done. I wish now to express my hearty sympathy with the object and design of that meeting. I

have been a citizen of Charlotte since 1870, having moved there from Iowa, and during that time have traveled largely over North and South Carolina, Georgia, East Tennessee and parts of Virginia, and have always met with every kindness from the people, and have felt more security of person and property than I do in the streets of this "City of Brotherly Love." I was not in the army. Northern papers, no doubt for political purposes, have persistently magnified everything that could in any way be used to the detriment of the South, and many honest people have read these exaggerated statements, and have believed that there existed a fearful state of lawlessness throughout the South, and no doubt many good and worthy people have been deterred from going South by this wilful perversion of facts, who would otherwise have gone. Your Convention will do much towards giving honest inquirers the truth, and will also, no doubt, be instrumental in setting the people of the South right before honest Northerners. I expect to return South in the Spring, and again to take up my residence in the hospitable and energetic little city of Charlotte. Again let me express my hearty good wishes for your enterprise. I am sorry I could not be with you. Fraternally yours,

E. H. GREEN, M. D.

SOUTH CAROLINA LETTERS.

Rev. Edward Cook, formerly President of Wilbraham (Mass.) College, and by request of Gov. Claflin coming to South Carolina to preside over Claflin University, tells how he finds things:

CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
ORANGEBURG COUNTY, S. C., Jan. 15, 1879.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your letter reached me last evening. I desire very much to attend the Convention to assemble at Charlotte, N. C. to-day, but do not see how I can do so at this time and on so short a notice.

I was ten years at the head of the large literary institution at Wilbraham, Mass., and came here in Oct., 1874, to take charge of this institution, over which I now preside, at the request of Gov. Claflin, of Mass., and other friends of the colored man.

My views of the situation were set forth in a recent letter to Mr. Merriam, of Springfield, Mass., and published in the Sprinfield *Republican* late in December, 1878.

My opinion is that the North is greatly misled by the correspondence of the Northern press, who mistake and exaggerate the party political excitement.

I know of no State North where the colored people enjoy superior rights to those enjoyed by them at the present time in this State.

I have lived eight years at the West and traveled generally through that great section, and I say without hesitation, the South presents greater inducements to settlers of small capital than any portion of country with which I am acquainted. Land is cheap and sufficiently productive under good cultivation. The winters are short and stock cheaply kept.

Houses and other buildings are not necessarily more than half as expensive as at the North and West.

The country now invites capital and manufacturers. All who come for legitimate business purposes will be well received and kindly treated.

Hoping your Convention will be productive of great good,

I am very truly yours, EDWARD COOKE.

E. R. Bardeen, formerly of New York, and for ten years a resident of Aiken, S. C., writes:

AIKEN, S. C., January 7, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

MY DEAR SIR:—I notice by the papers that you propose a Convention of Northern residents of the South, to be held in your city about

January 15th, to furnish a statement of the condition, capabilities and resources, as well as individual treatment, in the Southern country.

I cordially approve of the plan, and will gladly attend such Convention if it is to take place. I should be pleased to hear from you definitely, at once, in reference to the matter. I have been a resident of the South for ten years, engaged in planting, raising stock, fruit, &c.

Any information on the subject will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

E. R. BARDEEN.

From W. Dillingham, formerly of Ogdensburg, New York, now telegraph operator at Rock Hill, S. C.

ROCK HILL, S. C., January 13, 1879.

N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Your Circular received in due time and contents noted. In reply I would say, I heartily concur and approve of the movement, but I regret my inability to be present on the occasion, as I am unable to get any one to relieve me during my absence. I am from Ogdensburg, New York, and have been living here over eight years. I am very much pleased with the climate and water, and have as good a social standing as when I lived North. Please send me a copy of such resolutions as may be passed by the Convention, as I would like to send it to the Ogdensburg Advance for publication.

Please excuse my delay in not answering this sooner. I hope you will have a full Convention, and I regret I cannot be with you.

Your obedient servant,

W. DILLINGHAM.

Wm. Stimson, formerly of Canada, now a farmer at Bird's Mt., near Earlesville, Spartanburg county, S. C., on S. & A. R. R.

BIRD'S MT., S. C., Dec. 25th, 1878.

Major N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I received your circular of invitation to the Convention in due time. I am not able to be present with you on the 15th Jan., and as you wish, I write what I would like to say to you. I came originally from Brant county, Ontario, Can., to this place, but some seven or eight years, and especially during the war, I resided in New York City. In 1870 I removed to Brandy Station, Va., and from there I came to my present home in 1873, staying a few months in the North Pacolett Valley, on my way. I have had eight years of Southern life, and have been under a great variety of outward conditions in that time, and have had quite a large family to provide for, and I speak from experience when I say the South is a first rate place to live in, both as to the individual Northern man as well as for a colony of such. One is only to be inspired with kind feelings, be disposed to good habits, and be industrious to suc-

ceed here, and one would not have to look far whose eyes were not blinded by a deep prejudice, but he would find quite as superior intelligence, with as good manners, generosity and hospitality in the Southern people as may be found in the North. I find here, on this Mountain side, a very productive, red sandy loam, very productive when properly managed and *manured well.* It is the same soil that is found on all the uplands of the great Piedmont region of the Carolinas and Georgia, which has three or four varieties of color, chocolate, yellow, gray, red, creek bottom, and along the rivers, dark alluvial. I need doubtless say, as you have yourself observed, how this beautiful, sandy loam yields to wisely directed industry. After the clearing of an old field of its pine, or the original pine, oak and hickory have been removed, how it will yield an untold variety of cereals, flowers, fruits and vegetables, and that too in a climate unsurpassed for salubrity on the continent. Five years ago on this mountain side I constructed my log cabin in the woods, and if there is one place more than another in the South where I would likely to have been molested, it would have been here, but I have never been troubled. Exercising myself to treat all persons with the same consideration due to them, it is mine to gratefully testify to the honor of the southern friends I have made, their full measure of such virtues as contribute to make one feel very much at home with them. As my own calling is farming and horticulture, simply to provide for my own, I am not able to speak from experience of the profits of manufacturing, I leave that to others, simply saying there is great room, and fine water powers up in this section. One small cotton gin two miles from here sent away $5,000 of cotton this fall, upland cotton, and in up-country cotton belt, (the extreme limits of the belt.) I have not been trying to make money in the last five years here, indeed I have rather been willing to spend money and be spent in labor here, and so I have experimented a good deal, and have succeeded in all I have undertaken. I have planted a small vineyard of grapes for home consumption, and planted peach trees, and after three years I have refreshed my family, my friends, and myself with most luscious Delaware and Concord grapes, and peaches in abundance. With the exception of the past year (in which we experienced an unusual drought, when the east wind prevailed for months, driving the moisture away west of the Mississippi, there to deluge their crops and ruin them.) we have not failed to reap as bountifully as we were able to sow, and had force to cultivate, wheat, rye, oats, corn, clover, "giant molasses cane" (the standard of excellence in molasses cane,) lucerne, peanuts, yams, cotton, tobacco, Irish potatoes, onions, parsnips, beets, and Fottler's early drum head cabbage, &c., &c. If there be any thing desirable in the way of fruit and vegetables as set forth in White's Gardener for the South, almost all of them can be successfully raised here; and, becaused raised in a sandy loam, are of a superior quality and flavor. When one, by labor or capital, or both spent, shall have made his farm self-sustaining, there can be no more pleasant place to live than in the Piedmont region, more especially up under the mountain where "thermal belts"

abound. With abundance of fruits and vegetables, with plenty of eggs and fowls, and pork and beef, and mutton, which can be easily raised here. With the same vigilance necessary in any other place we can live well enough here, and often better than we deserve; but it is true in the South, in an eminent degree, as well as in the North, indeed the world over for that matter, it is the hand of the diligent one that maketh rich, and so on the other hand, he that deals with a slack hand shall surely come to want. To those who may be induced to locate in the Carolinas or Georgia, through the saying and doing of your timely conference, I would like to urge the study and application of rules of work in garden field, as given by Southern men, so well suited to the peculiar climate here; and they are "White's Gardening for the South," published by Orange Judd Co., New York, and the "Southern Cultivator," published by Jones, Athens, Ga. These, if followed, will *insure success*. While in farm machinery, the papers of the North are superior. Finally, with reference to my relations to the late war, on the ground of Christian forbearance, I never esteemed it a privilege to bear arms, and did not do so. I have no political prejudices; but I observe the present attitude of the South is long suffering and forbearance. With kind regards and good wishes for your undertaking, I am sir, truly, Your humble servant,

WM. STIMSON.

Wm. D. Munson, former Lieut. Col. 13th Vermont, writes from Greenville, S. C.

Greenville, S. C., Dec. 29, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.

Dear Sir:—Your Circular of the 23rd inst., is before me with a request from Mr. Brownell, (to whom it was addressed.) In reply to the same: your project is certainly a good one and cannot fail to be of real benefit to many persons and families at the North who do not understand the situation of affairs and matters at the South. Mr. Brownell, Mr. McGregor, W. H. Munson and myself came to Seneca City, S. C., and the Highlands, N. C., last March, intending to settle in the South. I spent part of the summer at the North and returned six weeks since. We are all from Burlington, Vermont, and propose staying somewhere in the South. Being almost a stranger in Greenville, I have not as yet made the acquaintance of many Northern people, but learn there are several families living here.

I spent a day in your city coming here six weeks since, and liked the place so much that I had intended going there again, and if possible shall be glad to come and attend your Convention.

I had the honor to serve in the Federal Army during the war; going out as Captain of Company D, 13th Regiment, Vermont Volunteers, and going home as Lieut. Col. of the same Regiment.

I do not know of any other Northern men now in the South who were in the army, but presume there are many. Hoping your project will have the success it deserves, I am,

Yours with much respect,

WM. D. MUNSON.

T. A. Finlay, formerly of Ontario, Canada, now of Greenville, S. C., writes facts of real interest touching farm matters:

GREENVILLE, S. C., 16th Dec. 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I have received your circular. In some ways it does not apply to me—I am still a British subject, and never resided in any Northern State. I moved here from Ontario, or Upper Canada, in Oct. 1873. I have been here long enough and am sufficiently acquainted with the feelings of the people to say confidently that any Northern man, whatever may be his political views, will be cordially welcomed here and no questions asked, unless he makes himself obnoxious by carpet-bagging. I was a farmer in Canada for twenty years and have been trying here to farm as nearly as possible in the same way. I do not grow much cotton, but turn my attention more to grain, grass and roots.

Wheat I find an uncertain crop, very subject to rust. The best crop I have made was 265 bushels on 12 acres. Oats sowed in the Fall from end of August to beginning of November are a pretty sure crop; I have made 50 bushels per acre. Barley does well sowed in the Fall; have made 40 bushels per acre. Clover and Turnips do well. Corn does well, when well manured and cultivated. My land is a pretty stiff red clay. Prices here now are very low: Wheat $1.00, Barley $1.00 and $1.25, Corn 50c, Oats 35c to 40c. Hay I sold from $10 to $15 per ton.

I need scarcely say that Greenville is a thriving city of from 7 to 8000 inhabitants. My farm is 765 acres; is 2 miles from the court house and ¾ mile from the Air-Line depot. Land within three or four miles of Greenville may be stated as held at about $20 per acre.

If I can at any time give you any further information, I shall be happy to do so. Yours very truly, JAMES A. FINLAY.

P. S.—I should have stated that colored labor (which I prefer) is plentiful and cheap. Wages from $6 to $10 per month with rations, (4lbs. bacon and peck corn meal per week) by the day forty or fifty cents without rations.

GEORGIA LETTERS.

From H. D. Ingersoll, Esq., formerly in Massachusetts Infantry, and from Boston, Mass., to Loudsville, Georgia, where he is engaged in mining.

LOUDSVILLE, GEORGIA, January 1st, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR :—Your Circular is just received, contents noted, and in answer would say that I think the move a good one in the right direction. I have been living here the most of the time since September, 1866. I am from Boston, Mass., was during the war in Campany F, 47th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, also Company D, 59th Vet. Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers.

I will attend the Convention on the 17th if I can leave my business here, but am very busy just now. I feel sure that a smart Northern man can come South and make more money, with less capital, than he can North, and all we need is good, live, energetic men, with capital, to make this part of the South the garden spot of the world.

I have induced one man of means to come and settle here, from Boston, a man who has lived in California 18 years ; he is here now doing a large business in mining. I have shown him your Circular, and he, I think, will write to you.

I will do anything I can, at any time, to assist in this thing.

Yours in haste.

H. D. INGERSOLL.

Read what a native Georgia Republican says:

BUFORD Ga., Jan., 1st, 1879.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR :—Your circular of Dec. 27th. inst. in relation to the Northern Men's Convention to be held on the 15th, inst. in your City, is before me. If I would be permitted an admittance in the Convention it would afford me much pleasure to attend, but I am a native Georgian, never was in the Federal army and, consequently, am excluded, though always a Republican and a friend to Northern Men who come South to settle among our people. It makes little or no difference to me where a man is born and raised, so he be a gentleman. Anything for the good of our common country.

Wishing you much success in your enterprise,

I am very respectfully yours etc., T. S. GARMER.

From J. W. Beardslee. Esq., a Republican, formerly of Newfield, New York, now connected with Andrew Female Seminary at Cuthbert, Ga., gives a wide range of Southern experience.

CUTHBERT, GEORGIA, January 9th, 1879.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR :—In response to an article published in the papers, calling a Convention of Northern men, or letters from those of them living in the South, for the purpose of discussing the feelings and treatment of the Southern people towards the Northern people, and to know if in their judgment they would advise emigration from the North to the South. For myself, I cheerfully write the following :

I was born in Newfield, New York, where my parents now reside. The last year of the war I was in the U. S. A., Company I,179th Regiment of New York State Infantry, 2nd Division, 9th A. C.

Until I went into the army I was by occupation a farmer. Soon after the close of the war I made music my profession. I have taught and sung in many of the towns and cities in my native State, also in Penn, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. The past four years I have spent in the "Sunny South." I want to do justice to the Southern people.

I will state that I have always been a Republican. I came here with very strong prejudices against the Southern people. My first visit was to New Orleans. I went there at the urgent request of a Northern man who was living and doing business there at that time. Of course I had heard reports how Northern men were treated, and my Northern friends advised me to be very cautious and not even to take any Northern paper with me, and if possible, to make them believe that I was a Southern man and a native of the South. But I had not been there forty eight hours when I told Col. Angel, of the "White League," that I had been a soldier in the Northern army, and he soon became a warm personal friend.

I pursued my profession (teaching music) and was never ashamed to own my native State, and no man ever had greater success in the musical profession in that city than myself. While in New Orleans I was received in more than one of the old families on equal terms and always with courtesy and respect. I received letters from my Northern friends telling me of the many murders reported there and urging me to get away. They saw more of the dangers and troubles, though they were fifteen hundred or two thousand miles away, than those living there, for they told me of many things that never occurred. The past four years have been the happiest years of my life. I have visited most of the prominent towns and cities in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. I have given nearly one hundred concerts in these different places, visited over two thousand private families, trained and taught a great many pupils. Few have had more to do with the Southern people than myself. I have shared their homes and hospitality like a brother, and have always expressed my sentiments

plainly, and if I have ever had an unkind or an insulting word, it was from some foreigner or ignoramus.

I will admit that some Northern men have been treated very roughly, but not half so much so as they deserved. I have had many men, who claimed to be from the North, make themselves very agreeable to me and tell me how badly they were treated just because they were Northern men, and who advised *me* what to do. In nine cases out of ten, I have found that they were outcasts, or tramps, who never were anybody nor ever could be, or that they were plotting and planning with the negroes, and because they were not made *lords* of by the people, they have written many lies which has given the South a bad reputation in the North. If good, true and honorable men of the North would visit the South and stay long enough to become acquainted with the people, they would certainly see that the South had been slandered.

Of course the Southern people, in common with all people, will at first be a little distant toward strangers. If the honest, hard laboring men of the North would come South and toil as hard as they do there, they would soon accumulate a fortune, for land is very cheap and the soil very productive. They will find true gentlemen all over the South, who will extend a brotherly hand, and give them a hearty welcome. The Southern people want peace and harmony, and court immigration.

I will state that those who are seeking for health and a warm climate in the winter could not do better than to visit or settle in Georgia. And to parents who have boys and girls to educate, they will find schools here which are hard to excel, and for the benefit of my friends, who may wish to know my whereabouts, I will state that I have the honor of being connected with one of those schools known as Andrew Female College, and will take pleasure in answering all communications.

I beg pardon for writing you so lengthy an article, but I have not written one-half what I would like to, and I am very sorry that I cannot meet with the convention, where I could say much more than I could possibly write. Hoping this will be satisfactory to you, I am

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. BEARDSLEE.

VIRGINIA LETTERS.

W. H. Trowbridge, a Western man, now a tobacco manufacturer, Danville, Va., writes forcibly.

DANVILLE, VA., Jan. 14th, 1879.

Mr. N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C.

DEAR SIR :—I thank you for your invitation to attend the proposed Convention, and I wish you the most unbounded success in your efforts to thwart the designs of those politicians whose lack of statesmanship renders it necessary for them to stoop to the grossest misrepresentations. In the West we are taught to believe of this whole country, that "this is my own, my native land," and having been in over thirty States, including the South, I have always felt myself among friends, and have never experienced in any of those states, any treatment (socially or in business) other than such as I would have received if "native here and to the manor born." Among the many acts of kindness received. I shall never forget the attentions and courtesies given me during sickness. When I think of the labored perversions and distortions of facts, I cannot restrain a just indigdation. Those self-seeking political agitators in either section, who for their own sinister purposes make such misrepresentations are no more exponents of either the North or the South, than are so many pick-pockets. While always the most noisy and unfortunately, the best advertised by the Press (which is apt to exclude plain common sense, and honest reason as tame) they are still frowned down by the respectable masses of both sections, who should not be blamed when occasionally imposed upon by intrigue and corruption. Those political quacks who flaunt the bloody shirt, should at once be consigned to that oblivion from which there is no resurrection. The American people were warned against them by Washington, and the writers in the Federalist. The latter characterized them as *"those who pander to the ignorance of the unthinking, and to the prejudices of the misthinking"*. I would ssy further that of the few irreconcilables, we find them all among the stay-at-home politicians and non-fighters on both sides. Show an exception and you show a poor fighter. The soldiers of the Blue and Gray who traded coffee and tobacco on the Rappahanock and elsewhere, fought honestly, and when done shook hands, are now for peace and harmony. All the trouble has been caused, and is yet to be feared from the non-combattants, whose lack of courage and ability only fitted them to rake up the dirty linen after the nearly forgotten conflict has been settled for nearly a generation, and the situation accepted in good faith by the brave men on both sides. As a non-combattant myself, I can say this with good grace. The reception and popularity of Gov. Walker of our state, formerly a New York Colonel, and the recep-

tion and cordial welcome extended to all who prove worthy of it, should be convincing proof of the falsity of statements to the contrary. It is true that there are worthy families who would never be contented after moving to the West, to any other state, or even to an adjoining county; but I can safely assert that there are fewer even of that class here than in the far West. I still believe that the signs of the times are hopeful; that the advocacy of extreme measures will produce a reaction, leaving abler leaders to come to the front, who are equal to the problems of the day; who understand that the wheels of industry are always blocked by unstable laws and agitations; that the unemployed labor and all the industries of the country suffer, not for more legislation, but from so much; that they require, perhaps, a few more changes, and those more permanent. People will discriminate between the artful demagogue and his wiles, and the true leader and his honest efforts to better the condition of the country. I believe we have many of the latter, who will yet gain the ascendency over wire-working politicians, and permit the energies of our vast country to work out their way untrammelled, building up our Navy, extending our Commerce to every point of the globe, and employing all of the now idle labor in developing the resources of our vast country. One of the first steps is to expose the charlatans who are directing the public mind from its most vital interests. As you seem to be taking the proper steps in this direction, I sincerely hope your efforts will be crowned with success, believing the respectable masses of the entire country only await the proper leadership, to join hands in developing our unbounded resources, and working out our high destiny. I remain, very truly yours,

W. H. TROWBRIDGE.

Mr. H. D. Gilbert, formerly of Syracuse, New York, writes from Danville, Va., his views on soil, &c.

DANVILLE, VA., Dec. 23rd, 1878.

N. Dumont., Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—I received your circular yesterday. I will write you a synopsis of my views of the productiveness of the land, and of the hospitality of the people of Virginia. This section of country is better adapted to tobacco than to raising grain or vegetables, but with the use of fertilizers and a little exertion on the part of the farmer or gardener, he can raise as large crops as in the majority of the Northern States. I have travelled through the best part of Virginia, and have always received a cordial welcome from all classes, and am thoroughly convinced that a stranger recieves a heartier welcome, and a more cordial grasp of the hand here, than in any of the Northern or New England States. We moved from Syracuse, N. Y., and purchased a plantation here, near Danville, about four years ago, and find the climate to be unexceptionable. I hope to be present at your Convention. Very respectfully,

H. D. GILBERT.

U. Birge, Esq., of Danville, Va., gives valuable facts concerning returns upon investments.

DANVILLE, VA., Dec. 23rd, 1878.

Mr. N. Dumont.,

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of the 14th inst. was duly received, in regard to a Convention of Northern men who now have their homes in the South. I fully approve and appreciate the proposed Convention, and feel much interested in the doings and the ultimate result of that meeting, but from a variety of intervening circumstances I regret to say that I shall be unable to attend. I came here from the interior of New York State in January, 1875, and am living about two miles from Danville engaged in agricultural pursuits. Left the North particularly to seek a more genial and comfortable climate, and escape the rigor and severity of the Northern winter. I find this climate far superior to the North, in all that contributes to comfort and happiness, besides the advantages it affords for accomplishing the various kinds of labor in connection with farming. Money invested judiciously in lands here, for agricultural purposes, and properly managed, pays by far a better per cent. than it does North. We frequently see in Northern newspapers, gross, baneful, ungenerous, pernicious and untruthful representations in regard to the Southern people. I have not seen one of the charges verified, but on the contrary, all is precisely the reverse of these representations. We have received nothing but polite, social, hospitable, respectful and kind treatment from all classes of the Southern people from the time we arrived here to the present. A living can be made quite as easily here as North, and much more pleasantly. Yours very respectfully,

URELIUS BIRGE.

J. B. Gilbert, formerly of Syracuse, N. Y., and who has lived in Minnesota, now farming near Danville, Va,, thinks the South best.

DANVILLE, VA., Dec. 23d, 1878.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 18th inst., received, inviting me to attend a Convention of Northern Settlers in Va., &c. I regret very much that circumstances, beyond my control, will prevent me from meeting with you at the time named. I cordially endorse your plan of disabusing the Northern mind of their prejudice by having the real facts, as we see and know them, before them fully. I bought a plantation here four years ago, and moved on it (from near Syracuse, N. Y.,) and am working it yet, and far more successfully (as times are,) than I could have done in Central New York or Minnesota, (having tried both. and Connecticut also.) I find and meet a cordial welcome by all classes, also find the country rich in minerals, healing waters, soil, timber &c., and abundant water power. Needs only capital, energy and pluck, well diverted, to

develope its resources and to make it one of the most desirable parts of the Union to live and prosper in. I hope to hear good results from the Convention. My best wishes to you and all its members.

Yours respectfully, J. B. GILBERT.

I. H. Lloyd, of Easthampton, Mass., who has traveled extensively in the South, gives full expression:

EASTHAMPON, MASS. Jan., 13th, 1879.

N. Dumont, Esq., Charlotte, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—A circular over your name, calling a Convention of Northern Settlers at Charlotte, N. C. about the middle of this month, has been sent me by some one in North Carolina, and while I do not suppose you expect, or care for any expression on the subject, I have so much interest in Southern Emigration that I desire to send you a word of greeting. If your ideas as expressed in the circular are well carried out, will, I think, be a move in the right direction, and may do good and result in quickening the work.

Having spent two winters and one summer in Virginia and North Carolina; passing through and spending more or less time in every section of both States—everywhere being met with cordiality and treated with consideration and kindness, and becoming much acquainted with the people, learning their feelings, wishes and purposes, I feel confident in asserting that all honest, industrious settlers from the North, or elsewhere, will be kindly welcomed and well treated in either of these States and that life and property is as safe there as in New England or New York. And that there are good openings in almost any part of these States for any amount of the idle capital now lying useless in our banks.

While South I often met and traveled with gentlemen from South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, and judge that about the same may be said of those States as of Virginia and North Carolina.

Wishing you success in your undertaking, I am

Yours, &c.,

I. H. LLOYD.

APPENDIX.

This valuable portion of the appendix was submitted to the Convention by the delegation from Mooresville in Iredell county, N. C., and by the Convention ordered to be recorded as part of the proceedings.

THE CHARACTER AND RESOURCES OF THE SECTION BETWEEN THE YADKIN AND CATAWBA RIVERS.

The region of country lying between the Yadkin and Catawba has been called the Mesopotamia of North Carolina, and so we shall call it. Not because the rivers approach in historic interest or commercial importance the famed Euphrates and Tigris ot the East, renowned twenty-five centuries ago by the powerful people and magisterial cities which occupied their banks; and we were about to say, not because these rivers, bounding the Mesopotamia of antiquity, have there sources in the beautiful Garden of Eden, but surely the comparison would not be extravagantly unfair, for our rivers, the Yadkin and Catawba, rising in the Blue Ridge and wending their way to the Atlantic, embrace between them as fair a country, perhaps, as may be found anywhere on the earth.

The Piedmont region of this State is justly regarded as far superior to any other part of it; and of this region, the best is undoubtedly the central portion included between the Yadkin and Catawba. Its fertile lands, finely adapted to the growth of almost ever plant known in the *flora* of the Temperate Zone, its mild and salubrious climate, its abundance of every natural resource, commended it to the substantial and thrifty German, and the intelligent and liberty loving Scotch-Irish of the fertile territory of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, thirty years before the Revolutionary War, and attracted towards this section of North Carolina a tide of emigration from those States, which beginning about 1750 continued onward with increasing force, and founded here a population unsurpassed, *then* or *now*, for the sterling qualities of integrity, industry, patriotism, and high Christian morality, by no people on the continent.

This territory between the rivers, nowhere perhaps more than forty miles in width, with an undulating surface, pleasantly deversified with hills and valleys, is very finely watered, being traversed with numerous creeks, along which are found the very best of grain and grass lands,

L. of C.

equal doubtless, to those, more famous, of the higher latitudes, while, on the ridges intervening, is found a soil finely adapted to the commercial staples of cotton and tobacco. It is a well known scientific fact, that climate, and therefore agricultural products, are influenced not alone by distance from the Equator, but also greatly by the degree of elevation of the country. It has been stated by good authority that a distance of 100 feet in an ascending surface is equivalent, in its effect on climate, to one degree of latitude on the sea level. From Charlotte, the commercial centre of this section, there is a difference in elevation of about two hundred feet, making, according to the standard of measurement, a climatic difference of two degrees of latitude, in a distance of 45 miles, and therefore affording a varied capacity of production. And so, too, the height of the country decreasing rapidly from the mountains towards the sea level, while it furnishes an abundance of water power for the machinery of New England, insures a variety of climate adapted to the production of the fruits and grasses of the North, the grains of the Middle States, and the Tobacco and cotton of the South. The more palpable proof of this adoption is in the fact, that agriculture in these various lines is successfully prosecuted throughout this section. The timothy and blue grass of the Mountain Valleys are equal to any, and the finest exhibition of apples at the Exposition of '76 was sent from Western Carolina. Tobacco of the best, both in quality and quantity per acre, has been and is raised in Iredell county. And we think that those who know whereof we speak will not charge us with a want of modesty when we claim that the Mooresville section is the *garden spot* of this "goodly land." The cotton interest has been the main one in agriculture here, and will doubtless continue to be an important one. The people have not grown rich, but they have certainly prospered, and greatly too, in comparison with those of other sections. Since '65 cotton has been largely and profitably grown; and the wonder is, with all the favorable circumstances, the abundance and cheapness of labor, the convenient and plentiful suply of the raw material, the facilities of transportation, and a liberal and enterprising population, that men of capital have not established factories for converting it into yarns and cloths. Men of integrity and enterprising spirit will be welcomed and encouraged, wherever they may hail from.

There is no doubt, too, that the high ridges of this section, timbered principally with pine, hickory and oak, and sometimes with chinquepin and chestnut, are specially adapted to the growth of the fine grades of tobacco. Such has been the decided and pronounced opinion of those skilled in the tobacco culture. It has been and is raised to a small extent, and with remarkable success, considering the want of skill. It is confidently and reasonble expected, that the connection with the tobacco counties of Davie and Forsythe by the Winston, Salem and Mooresville Railroad now being put under contract, will stimulate its cultivation and make it another staple production of this section.

The price of land, with ordinary improvements of buildings and fences, and within easy reach of railroad transportation, is generally from $5 to $10 per acre. Of course higher prices are asked for well improved places in close proximity to town, but there is no doubt that farms can be bought for one half the price demanded ten years ago. There is land fully capable of producing a bale of cotton per acre within five miles of a railroad, that would not probably bring $10 per acre, if sold for cash. Good laborers, able-bodied men, are hired at $5 per month, and the most skilled will scarcely command $10 on the farms. The necessaries of life are abundant and cheap, being found for sale in almost every farmer's house in the country. And though the people know and appreciate their advantages, property can easily be bought by those who are able to pay for it, and they are ready to welcome and encourage any accessions of real worth, in intelligence, capital or labor, from anywhere, regardless of geographical or sectional lines.

They are not exclusive either in their political or religious creeds, and any man with an honest business honestly conducted will be warmly received, and accorded a fair chance in the race of life.

———o———

The detailed statement touching the city of New Berne, N. C., and its tributary country, was submitted to the Convention by Mr. Radcliff, delegate from New Berne, and ordered to be spread upon the records of the Convention.

The following Report was prepared and ordered to be sent to the Convention of Northern Citizens to be held in Charlotte, N. C., on January 15*th*, 1879 :

We, the undersigned, citizens of New Berne, and representing Eastern North Carolina, respectfully report: That New Berne, situated at the junction of the Neuse and Trent rivers, is the centre of a large agricultural region, devoted to truck farming in the spring, and to the cultivation of cotton, corn, rice, tobacco, sweet potatoes, peanuts, &c., as summer crops. Several hundred acres are annually planted in early peas, potatoes, melons, &c., for the Northern markets, and followed by cotton, corn, millet and cow peas during the summer. Our land is generally of a light sandy character, easily cultivated, and is well suplied with marl, accessible for agricultural purposes.

Owing to close proximity to the Gulf Stream, we seldom have snow, and plowing can be done at almost any time during the winter.

Water navigation on the rivers and creeks, enables farmers to move crops cheaply and also make New Berne a centre for lumber, staves and shingles for shipment North and to the West Indies.

Labor, both male and female, suitable for agricultural and mechanical purposes, is abundant at moderate prices. Steamers run regularly to Norfolk, Baltimore and New York. We have also daily communication by Rail via Goldsboro. The time for passengers from New Berne to New York being 24½ hours. During and since the late war quite a number of persons from the Northern States have settled in this section, and are engaged in the various occupations of agriculture, manufacture, &c. Our manufacturing interests at present embrace one Cotton Factory, one Wood Plate and Veneer Factory, Four Saw and Planing Mills, one Tobacco, and two Cigar Factories, one Marine Railway, one Foundry, two Machine Shops, one Plow Factory, two Cotton Ginning and Grist Mills, one Sash, Blind and Bucket Factory, two Coach Makers, two Turpentine Distilleries, two Shingle Yards, one Box and two Cooper Shops, with other smaller industries, employing in the aggregate several hundred operatives, but with room for many more, as crude material, particularly wood and cotton, are abundant and cheap. Land either in large or small tracts, suitable for Truckers or Farmers, or for stock raisers, can be purchased at reasonable, and on favorable terms in Craven, Jones, Carteret, Pamlico and adjoining counties.

Immigants would be well treated and would find a pleasant and healthy climate, with every advantage of schools and churches.

JNO. S. MANIX.
ETHELBERT HUBBS.
S. M. CARPENTER.
GEO. N. JONES.
THOMAS DANIELS.
E. P. SORCH.
S. RATCLIFF.
R. H. HILTON.
D. STIMSON.

Highlands, N. C., January 10th, 1879.

The following statement from Highlands, N., C., mailed to N. Dumont, was by him submitted to the Convention and ordered to be made a part of the records.

TO THE CONVENTION OF NORTHERN IMMIGRANTS TO BE HELD IN CHARLOTTE, N. C. JAN. 15th, 1879.

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, residents of Highlands, Macon county, N. C., having moved here from the Northern States within the last four years, appreciate the importance of your meeting and regret our inability to be present. We sincerely hope you may have a large attendance and do much to correct false impressions that have gone abroad respecting the situation and advantages for Northern immigrants in the South.

Highlands is located thirty miles North of Walhalla, the present terminus of the Blue Ridge Railroad, and thirty-eight miles north of Seneca on the Atlanta & Charlotte Air-Line Railroad. We now have about thirty Northern familes located in the village and vicinity.

The old citizens here are a quiet, well disposed people. We have been welcomed and well treated by them, and our rights have been respected in every sense. Our village is situated on the expanded summit of the Blue Ridge, about four thousand feet above the ocean. For health it is not excelled in the United States. Our winters are mild and summers cool, the temperature being seldom lower than 5° above zero, or higher than 80°. All Northern crops are grown here and of the best quality. Apples grow in perfection. It is pre-eminently a grass country, and sheep and cattle raising, dairying, bee culture, and raising hogs on the abundant mast in the woods, are all paying occupations. Land, unimproved, can be bought from fifty cents to three dollars per acre. Partly improved farms with some orchards, buildings, &c., can be bought in this section from three to ten dollars per acre. We have an abundance of pure cold soft water in unfailing springs and streams, in which are myriads of speckled trout, and mountain scenery that is unsurpassed for grandeur and beauty. For Northern people who are seeking a mild and healthful climate, good society and cheap land, suited to the growth of Northern productions, especially stock, dairying, bee keeping, &c., we believe there is no country possessing greater attractions than this.

We have no political trouble, or interference with our political rights or notions. Respectfully,

S. T. Kelsey, moved here from Kansas in 1875; Thomas Baxter White, from Massachusetts, 1875; Robert Marchant, from Nebraska,

1878; C. C. Hutchinson, from Kansas, June 1878; Thomas H. Dunn, from Connecticut, May, 1878; S. F. Patrick, from Michigan, 1st December, 1878; O. U. Bicketson, from Ohio, 1878; Chas. H. Allen, from Maine, February, 1878, soldier in Co. G, 31st Maine Vols.; A. T. House, from Connecticut, October, 1878, South Atlantic Squadron; A. H. Hutchinson, from Kansas, July 1878; F. H. Cook, from Connecticut, January, 1878; O. J. McQuiney, from Vermont, 1878; B. W. Wells, from New York, Co. G. 101st New York Vols.; J. Jay Smith, from Indiana, Feb. 1878.

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

STATE CONVENTION OF NORTHERN SETTLERS,

—HELD AT—

RALEIGH N., MARCH 1st, 1879.

Pursuant to call of the Charlotte Convention of January 15, 1879.

The State Convention of Northern Settlers, called under a resolution of the Charlotte Convention of January 15th, met yesterday at Metropolitan Hall, at 3 p. m. Mr. N. Dumont, of Charlotte, was elected president, and E. Conklin, Esq., of Raleigh, secretary.

Buncombe county sent a valuable paper setting forth its advantages, which was adopted.

Messrs. T. A. Kingsley and N. Plumadore, of Raleigh, and John Hinman, of Warren county, were appointed a committee on business. After conference the following resolutions were submitted:

WHEREAS, We believe in the wisdom of the spirit and principles enunciated by the findings of the Charlotte Convention held January 15th, 1879, and this body desiring to follow its inspirations, therefore,

Resolved, 1*st*, That this convention adopt in entirety the resolutions and findings of the convention of Northern born residents of the South held at Charlotte, N. C., January 15, 1879, with this addition, viz: That so far as North Carolina is concerned, we would suggest to all person who come to this State looking for lands and homes, to critically enquire as to the texture, quality and productive powers of soils and the healthfulness of the particular location their fancy leads them toward. We suggest this because in some localities lands are poor and heretofore impositions have been practiced.

2*nd*, That the railway lines running into our State be respectfully requested to consider the means employed by the railways leading to the Great West, and apply to our State the same methods to induce a healthful immigration of people and property to our State, and to this end we appoint a committee of six to correspond with the proper authorities with a view to carrying out the spirit and purposes of this movement toward immigration.

3*rd*, We congratulate the people of the State, that the State debt, through its Legislature now in session, has been satisfactorily and amicably arranged. We feel that this new order of things will bring about a new era of State prosperity that will work to the interests of the State and all concerned.

4*th*, We thank the press of the State for their many tokens of kindness and the earnestness with which they have favored us with their many marks of appreciation.

5*th*, We also thank the managers of our railroads for issuing to us half-fare tickets, and trust that they will continue to appreciate our efforts to influence immigration to our adopted State.

6*th*, This Convention respectfully suggests that the native North Carolinians hold a Convention at such time and place as they may deem best to take into consideration this subject of immigration.

The resolutions were adopted without dissent.

The committee provided for in the second resolution was appointed.

Upon motion the following gentlemen were appointed to the general Convention, to be held in Charlotte, July 4, 1879, viz:

James H. Chadbourn, Wilmington, delegate. Mr. Bull, of Craven county, alternate.

V. K. Speer, Asheville, delegate. H. C. Whiting, Mooresville, alternate.

Col. C. A. Cilley, of Lenoir, Caldwell county, delegate. D. L. Barker, of Morganton, alternate.

John Hinman, Ridgeway, delegate.

Capt. George S. Campbell, of Goldsboro, delegate. H. L. Grant, alternate.

Seth M. Carpenter, Newberne, delegate. D. Ives, of Beaufort, alternate.

John Graham, Hillsboro, delegate. J. C. Brewster, of Raleigh, alternate.

T. C. Kelsey, of Highlands, Macon county, delegate. A. J. Curtis, of Statesville, alternate.

N. Dumont, of Charlotte, delegate. T. C. McMahon, of Greensboro, alternate.

N. Plumadore, of Raleigh, delegate. George Dichtl, of Raleigh, alternate.

SIGNERS.

T. A. Kingsley, builder, Raleigh, N. C., formerly of Binghampton, New York.

John Hinman, farmer, Ridgeway, Warren co., N. C., formerly of Chester co., Penn.

N. Plumadore, Real Estate Agent, Raleigh, N. C., formerly of Indiana.

N. Dumont, Charlotte, N. C., President of Convention.

E. Conklin, with "Daily Observer," Raleigh, N. C., formerly Captain of Illinois Infantry and from Binghampton, N. Y.

H. B. Forrest, keeper of Oakwood Cemetery, Raleigh, N. C.. from Tioga co., Penn.

J. J. Baker, cotton merchant, Raleigh, N. C., formerly Col. 3d Massachusetts Cavalry, from Boston, Mass.

D. S. Ireland, Jr., Raleigh, N. C., carpenter, from Penn.

F. H. Gruendler, Tobacconist, Raleigh, N. C., formerly Springfield, Mass.

L. C. Shepperd, farmer, Wake co., N. C., from Tioga co., Penn.

H. G. Riffle, cigar man'fr, Raleigh, N. C., from Tioga co., Penn.

Geo. Dichtl, Sup't National Cemetery, Raleigh, formerly Oregon.

Chas. Shoemaker, Ridgeway, N. C., formerly of New York.

C. B. Fairchild, Sup't in Graded Schools and Florist, Raleigh, N. C., formerly of Binghampton, N. Y.

J. C. Brewster, Merchant, Raleigh, N. C., formerly of Philadelphia, Penn.

C. H. Bein, Merchant, Raleigh, N. C., Philadelphia, Pa.

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